



2 Hathras stampede: UP CM forms...



4 Daily-wagers need more protection



7 We've managed to become a team that'll live forever...

PM Modi counters Congress's '1/3' jibe in Rajya Sabha

'Completed 10 years, 20 more to go'

Modi said people defeated propaganda and prioritised performance



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi hit out at the Opposition Congress in his Rajya Sabha address, stating that the people rejected its agenda by voting for his performance.

He also took a swipe at the Congress for its '1/3 jibe'. "I would like to extend hearty gratitude to a few colleagues in Congress. Ever since the results came, I was taking note of a colleague - who was not supported by his party but he held his party's flag all alone. For what he said, unke muh mein ghee shakkar. Why am I saying this? He repeatedly said '1/3rd government'. What can be a bigger truth than

this? We have completed 10 years now and there are 20 more to go. So, we have completed 1/3rd, 2/3rd remains. So, 'unke muh mein ghee shakkar' for his prophecy," Modi said. The Prime Minister added that the third term for the BJP-led NDA is for making India a developed and self-reliant nation. "The next five years are to ensure saturation of basic facilities and for the fight against poverty. This country will emerge victorious against

poverty in the next five years, and I am saying this based on the experience of the past 10 years. When India will become the third largest economy in the world, its impact will be on every sphere of life," Modi said. Modi said that for his party BJP, the Constitution is not just a compilation of articles but its spirit and words are very important too. "It acts like a lighthouse for governments," he said, adding that Constitution Day will disseminate the spirit of the Constitution in the country. "This opportunity given to us for the third time by the people of the country is to realise 'Viksit Bharat' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'," says Modi in Rajya Sabha. Meanwhile, the opposition raised slogans of 'LoP ko bolne do' as PM

Narendra Modi spoke, after LoP Mallikarjun Kharge wanted to intervene during Modi's reply. Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, however, did not heed to his requests, leading to INDIA bloc MPs, raising slogans and asking for the LoP to be allowed to speak. Modi continued his speech amid the slogan-shouting. Despite Kharge repeatedly pleading to be allowed to speak, Dhankhar did not give the permission after which the INDIA bloc MPs staged a walkout of the House. Dhankhar condemned their act of walkout, saying this was an insult to the Constitution. Modi too decried the walkout and said he is not trying to score points but is duty-bound to give an account of his government's performance.

Champai Soren resigns as J'khand CM, Hemant Soren stakes claim to form govt

Ranchi (Agency): Champai Soren on Wednesday tendered his resignation as Jharkhand chief minister to Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan. Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) executive president Hemant Soren staked a claim to form the government. While speaking to the reporters, Champai Soren said, "I have resigned as per the decision of the JMM-led alliance. Our alliance is strong."

Soren was released from jail on June 28 as the high court granted him bail in a money laundering case linked to an alleged land scam. He had resigned as the CM before his arrest on January 31. Champai Soren had taken oath as 12th Jharkhand CM on February 2 after Hemant Soren's arrest. Meanwhile, the ED is expected to approach the Supreme

"A few days ago, I was made the chief minister and I got the responsibility of the state. After Hemant Soren was back, our alliance took this decision and we chose him as our leader," he added. The decision to change in leadership was taken at the key alliance meeting held at Champai Soren's residence in Ranchi. According to sources, the decision was unanimously taken to elect Hemant Soren as JMM legislature party leader.



"We have taken all the decisions legally and we will inform you the details shortly," said Hemant Soren after stepping out of the Raj Bhavan. Soren's wife Kalpana, brother and minister Basant, Congress's Jharkhand in-charge Ghulam Ahmad Mir and state president Rajesh Thakur attended the meeting.

Court with a special leave petition (SLP) against the HC order that granted bail to Hemant Soren. The HC had stated that there is "reason to believe" that Hemant Soren was not guilty of the offence as alleged by the ED. The ED's legal team had requested the court for a stay on the implementation of the bail order for 48 hours, on the day bail was granted to him so that it could move the Supreme Court. However, the high court had rejected the plea.

Members can't raising slogans during oath Lok Sabha Speaker amends rule

New Delhi: With some Lok Sabha members resorting to sloganeering during the oath, Speaker Om Birla amended the rule, barring MPs-elect from adding any remark to the oath as members of the House. Mr Birla added a fresh clause to 'Direction 1' of the 'Directions by the Speaker' for regulating certain matters related to the functioning of the House that are not specifically provided in the rules. According to the amendment to 'Direction 1', the new clause 3 now states that a member shall make and subscribe oath or affirmation, and "shall not use any word or expression or make any remark as a prefix or suffix to the form of oath or affirmation". The amendment came against the backdrop of several members raising slogans like "Jai Samvidhan" and "Jai Hindu Rashtra" while taking oath last week. One member had also raised the slogan 'Jai Palestine', which too was objected to by several members. The Speaker had urged the members to stick to the prescribed format but in vain. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju alleged several members used the solemn occasion of taking oath or making affirmation to send a political message.

Cabinet panels named, BJP allies get highest representation since 2014

New Delhi (Agency): The fact that the BJP is running a government without a majority on its own was reflected in the newly constituted Cabinet committees on Wednesday as well as the time taken in naming their members. The BJP's allies in the NDA have got the highest representation in the panels since 2014. The members of the committees have been announced over three weeks after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the council of ministers took oath on June 9. One panel that will remain unchanged is the all-important Cabinet Committee on Security, which takes decisions on all

national security related matters, including defence expenditure and senior appointments in the security apparatus. Headed by the Prime Minister, the committee also consists of the Ministers for Defence, Home Affairs, Finance and External Affairs and not only will the composition remain unchanged but also the people, with all the Modi 2.0 ministers in the committee retaining their portfolios. The Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, which deals with economic and political issues as well as Centre-state relations and is also known as the 'Super Cabinet', has now got the Telegu Desam Party's K

Rammohan Naidu and Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) Chief Jitan Ram Manjhi as members. Mr Manjhi is the minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) while Mr Naidu is the Civil Aviation minister. Lalan Singh from the Janata Dal United is in the

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs while another key Bihar ally, Chirag Paswan, who heads the Lok Janshakti Party (Ramvilas), has found a place in the Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth. Lalan Singh aka Rajiv Ranjan Singh holds the Panchayati Raj and Animal Husbandry

portfolios and Mr Paswan is the minister for Food Processing Industries. Jayant Chaudhary, leader of the Rashtriya Lok Dal, which was a key INDIA ally earlier, is a special invitee in the Cabinet Committee on Skill, Employment and Livelihood. Mr Chaudhary is the Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Other Key Faces: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is in every cabinet committee except those on Appointments and Accommodation, which is a sign of his stature in the Modi government. Among new entrants, former Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who is now the

Union Agriculture minister, is on the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. Annpurna Devi, the minister for Women and Child Development, who is seen as the most important woman member of the cabinet after Nirmala Sitharaman, is a member of the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs. In terms of numbers, Chandrababu Naidu's TDP and Nitish Kumar's JDU are the most important allies of the BJP because they have 16 and 12 MPs respectively and are critical in taking the NDA past the majority mark. Sources said it is interesting that leaders of these two allies are not on any of the committees together.

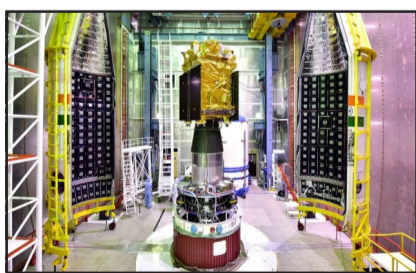


India's Solar Observatory Aditya-L1 Completes Halo Orbit: ISRO

New Delhi (Agency): Aditya-L1 spacecraft, known as India's solar observatory, has completed its first halo orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1), announced mission officials at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The Aditya-L1 was launched to low earth orbit (LEO) on September 2, last year by the Indian rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle-XL (PSLV-XL) variant. Sun-Earth L1 is the point where the gravitational pull of two large bodies -- Sun and Earth -- will be equal and hence the spacecraft will not gravitate towards any one of them. The spacecraft was inserted in its targeted halo orbit on January 6, early this year. To complete a revolu-

tion around the L1 point, "Aditya-L1 spacecraft took 178 days", the ISRO said. During its travel in the halo orbit, the spacecraft underwent various perturbing forces that worked to depart from the targeted orbit. To maintain the orbit, the spacecraft had to undergo two station-keeping maneuvers on February 22 and June 7. On Tuesday, the spacecraft conducted its third station-keeping maneuver. And now it has "continued into the second halo orbit path around L1",

the space agency said. "This journey of Aditya L1 around Sun-Earth L1 Lagrangian point involves modeling of complex dynamics. The understanding of various perturbing forces acting on the spacecraft helped in determining the trajectory accurately and planning precise orbit maneuvers," the ISRO said. The third maneuver also validates the state-of-the-art flight dynamics software developed in-house at URSC-ISRO for the Aditya-L1 missions. Aditya-L1, dedicated to the study of the Sun, carries seven payloads. It will observe the photosphere, chromosphere, and the Sun's outermost layers (the corona) using electromagnetic, particle, and magnetic field detectors.



Advertisement for Ujala Media Group Summer Competition. Includes logos for Ujala Live, English Daily Ujala Shikhar, and various awards. Text: UJALA MEDIA GROUP SUMMER COMPETITION 5 जून 2024 (विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस) से 5 जुलाई 2024 तक. विज्ञान प्रतिযোগिता गुप अ कक्षा 1 से 5 तक - विषय पर्यावरण. विज्ञान प्रतियोगिता गुप ब कक्षा 6 से 8 तक - विषय पर्यावरण. निबन्ध प्रतियोगिता गुप स कक्षा 9 से 12 तक - विषय पर्यावरण (400 शब्द). फार्म मिलने एवं जमा करने का स्थान: (1) नवीन कूल प्वाइंट, अटलांटिस मॉल बिग बाजार, सिविल लाइन्स, प्रयागराज. (2) निर्मल डिजिटल स्टूडियो, चुंघरू चौराहा झलवा, प्रयागराज. (3) अंश टॉय एंड अंडर गारमेंट्स सेंटर, प्रीतम नगर विवेकानंद स्कूल के पास, प्रयागराज. E-mail - ujalalivenews@gmail.com, ujalashikhar@gmail.com | Mob. : 9335153330

Hathras stampede: UP CM forms high-level probe team; SDM submits report

Hathras (Agency): The Hathras district administration in Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday submitted an inquiry report into the possible reasons behind the stampede incident here during a religious gathering which claimed the lives of 116 people.

According to a report by the sub divisional magistrate (SDM), over 2 lakh people participated in the 'Bhola Baba satsang' on Tuesday. After the event ended, the crowd surged forward to have 'darshan' of Narayan Sakar Hari (Bhole Baba) and touch his feet. "When the devotees rushed towards the vehicle of the spiritual leader, his security personnel began pushing and shoving the crowd. This caused some people to fall. The crowd then moved towards the open field in front of the event venue, where people slipped and fell due to the slope while descending from the road to the field," the report said.

Unable to get back up, the fallen were trampled as the crowd scattered. Many

women, men and children were killed or seriously injured. The injured were immediately transported to nearby hospitals and community health centres by police security personnel using ambulances and other available means. According to officials, the report was submitted by SDM of Sikandrara to Hathras district magistrate.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has set up a high-level team comprising divisional commissioner Aligarh and ADG Agra to enquire into the incident. Religious storyteller Bhole Baba, who came to Hathras for the programme, is a resident of Bahadur Nagar of Patiali in Kasganj district. His original name is SP Singh and he had left the job as sub inspector of police 17 years ago and since then started giving religious sermons.

It was told that SP Singh (Bhole Baba) had started preaching service to humanity during his job. At the same time, Bhole Baba and his followers generally stay away from the media.

Yogi Govt to provide ex-gratia to devotees from 3 other states

Lucknow (Agency): The Uttar Pradesh government will provide ex-gratia to all those who lost their lives in the Hathras stampede, including those from three other states: Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, and Rajasthan. According to the list of victims released by the district administration, the deceased included 106 devotees from 17 districts of UP, as well as one devotee each from Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, Palwal in Haryana and Deeg in Rajasthan, as well as three from Faridabad.

The compensation will be of Rs 4 lakh (Rs 2 lakh from Centre and Rs 2 lakh from UP gov't) to the families of the deceased and Rs one lakh for the injured. Among the deceased from Uttar Pradesh, the highest number,



22, were from Hathras, followed by 17 from Agra, 15 from Aligarh, 10 from Etah, 8 each from Kasganj and Mathura, 6 from Badaun, and 5 each from Shahjahanpur and Bulandshahr. Additionally, two individuals each from Auraiya and Sambhal, and 1 each from Lalitpur, Firozabad, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Pilibhit, Lakhimpur Kheri, and Unnao also lost their lives in the tragic incident. Overall, six deaths from outside Uttar Pradesh and 106 from within the state have been confirmed, totaling 112 identified individuals out of 121 deceased. Out of these 121 dead, 113 are women, 6 children (5 boys and 1 girl) and two men. Additionally, the administration has issued control room/helpline numbers: 05722-227041, 42, 43, and 45.

UP gov't provides financial help of over Rs 78.31 crore to 3,749 patients post 'Janata Darshan'

Lucknow (Agency): Immediately after the Model Code of Conduct was lifted on the conclusion of Lok Sabha, the Uttar Pradesh government has sanctioned over Rs 78.31 crore in just 26 days for the treatment of 3,749 patients. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath held a 'Janata Darshan' at his official residence in Lucknow on June 6 and had directed that victims seeking financial assistance for medical treatment be promptly aided, ensuring that

funds were released to hospitals within the stipulated time frame. Funds were released to the victims on the basis of reports on the letters of public representatives. Between June 6 to July 1, the UP government has released Rs 78, 31.54, 134 to 3,749 affected individuals for medical treatment. The amount helped people from all walks of life receive treatment for serious illnesses including kidney issues, cancer, brain hemorrhages and surgeries.

Assam flood situation remains grim; over 11 Lakh affected, death toll rises to 38

Guwahati (Agency): The flood situation in Assam remains grim with human fatalities rising to 38 as three more people drowned in the last 24 hours.

According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), the latest victims include two from the Tinsukia district and one from the Dhemajai district.

The surging waters of the mighty Brahmaputra and its tributaries affected over 11.34 lakh people across 28 districts of the state. The most affected districts are Lakhimpur, Darrang, and Golaghat.

The deluge has inundated 42,476 hectares of crop area and affected 2,208 villages under 84 revenue circles.

Major rivers, such as the Brahmaputra, Subansiri, Burhidihing, Dikhou, Disang, Dhansiri (S), Jia-Bharali, Puthimari, Kopili, Beki, Kushiya, Barak, and Dhaleswari, are



flowing above the danger mark at various locations.

The state government established 489 relief camps where more than 2.87 lakh people have taken shelter. Additionally, many flood-affected individuals are seeking refuge on higher grounds, in school buildings, on roads, and on bridges. Rescue operations

by local administration, the Army, paramilitary forces, SDRF, and Circle Office are on. On Tuesday, around 2,900 people were rescued from various flood-hit areas.

The administration has distributed 10,754.98 quintals of rice, 1,958.89 quintals of dal, 554.91 quintals of salt, and 23,061.44 liters of mustard oil among the af-

ected people. Cattle feed has also been provided to those in need. The flood has impacted 832,099 animals, and damaged 74 roads, 6 bridges, and 14 embankments, with five embankments breached. The situation remains critical even as the authorities continue to monitor and respond to the crisis.

India-Bangladesh relationship an example for others: Sheikh Hasina

New Delhi (Agency): Indian Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi held talks with Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Dhaka to discuss bilateral ties, including cooperation in the field of defence.

During the discussions that took place on Tuesday, Hasina appreciated India's contribution to Bangladesh's War of Liberation in 1971.

"Adm Dinesh K Tripathi CNS, on an official visit to Bangladesh, called on HE Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh on #02Jul 24. During discussions, the PM of Bangladesh recalled & appreciated India's contribution to Bangladesh's War of Liberation in 1971," the Indian Navy said in a post on X later.

"(The) CNS apprised the PM regarding the progress of ongoing bilateral maritime engagements b/n the Indian Navy & the Bangladesh Navy," the Navy added.

Sheikh Hasina said the India-Bangladesh relation-

ship is a "model" and an "example" for others as both the countries have resolved many problems through dialogue. In this regard, she referred to the solution of land boundaries and maritime boundaries between Bangladesh and



India. Admiral Tripathi is on a four-day official visit to Bangladesh. The visit is aimed at consolidating bilateral defence relations between the two countries and exploring new avenues for Naval cooperation.

India and Bangladesh share bonds of history, language, culture, and a multitude of other commonalities. The excellent bilateral ties reflect an all-encompassing partnership based on sovereignty, equality, trust, and understanding that goes far beyond a strategic partnership, the Navy added.

Dhankhar condemns Opposition's walkout during PM Modi's reply in RS, terms it 'insult to Constitution'

New Delhi (Agency): Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Wednesday hit out at the INDIA bloc MPs for staging a walkout while Prime Minister Narendra Modi was replying to the debate on the Motion of Thanks to President's address in the Upper House of Parliament, saying that the Opposition members have challenged the Constitution.

Prior to walking out from the House, the Opposition MPs protested with incessant sloganeering and raised chants like 'LoP ko bolne do' (Let LoP speak). Dhankhar didn't allow the Congress President and the Leader of the House Mallikarjun Kharge to intervene while PM Modi spoke. This led to more shriller protests from the Opposition benches, and then a walk-out.

As the Opposition MPs left the Upper House proceedings in the middle, the

RS chairman accused them of having 'disrespected' the House and 'challenging and outraging the spirit' of the Constitution.

Dhankhar said LoP Kharge "insulted" oath to the office by walking out of the Upper House.

"Khargeji insulted the oath of office through the walkout. They (opposition MPs) have made a mockery of the Constitution. I hope they introspect", the RS Chairman said.

Condemning the Opposition's walkout, Dhankhar said, "They showed their back to the Constitution of India, they didn't insult me or you, they insulted the oath of Constitution that they took. There can be no bigger insult to the Constitution of India than this."

"They have challenged the Constitution. They have outraged the spirit of the Constitution; they have disregarded the oath they have undertaken.

Aggressive BJP, combative opposition continue to be on campaign mode in Lok Sabha

New Delhi (Agency): The inaugural session of the 18th Lok Sabha was high on drama and witnessed an extremely intense war of words between the ruling side and the opposition, making it evident that the battle lines continue to be drawn and the sentiment of the bitter electoral battle is being carried forward.

The new Lok Sabha is strikingly different from the previous house. The opposition now is almost equal to the ruling side in strength, while the ruling BJP, after a gap of 10 years, does not enjoy a majority of its own. It is also after a gap of 10 years that there is a leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha.

The ruling BJP made a somewhat subdued entry into the Lok Sabha. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his party have emphasised the fact that it

is a government of the National Democratic Alliance, with the Telugu Desam Party and the Janata Dal (United) providing the numbers crucial for sustaining the dispensation. However, Modi and the BJP have made it clear in this session that despite the changed arithmetic, they cannot be treated as pushovers.

There is an emphasis on continuity and the effort on part of the ruling side has been to convey that the people have chosen stability by voting in the NDA a third time. Be it the Speaker's election or the opposition's demand for the post of deputy speaker, the government has attempted to convey by being unyielding that the authority wielded by Modi and the BJP continues to be intact.

In his reply to the discussion on the motion of thanks to the President's address, Modi has

emphasised the fact that the NDA has formed a government third time in a row, while the opposition has faced defeat for the third consecutive time in the Lok Sabha polls. He has described the Congress as a "parasite" that has managed to reach 99 seats by riding on the coattails of its regional allies. He has sought to come across as being in complete control of the proceedings despite the dent in the BJP's numbers. On the other hand, the opposition is intent on making its newfound strength felt in Parliament. In their speeches, the INDIA alliance MPs have sought to convey the message that Modi has lost the moral authority to lead the country and his stature has diminished.

In his maiden speech as leader of opposition, Rahul emphasised the themes that formed the mainstay of the

opposition's campaign in the election, be it the alleged threat to the Constitution, the purported misuse of investigating agencies by the ruling dispensation to target political opponents, the farmer's plight and the Agniveer scheme. The NEET issue was also raised by the Opposition members.

Meanwhile, the session also exposed the underlying differences in the INDIA alliance. The Congress and the Trinamool Congress spoke in different voices with regard to the Speaker's election. Also, the reference made by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to the Emergency left the Congress isolated in its protests over the issue. The first session of the new Lok Sabha has shown that the divide between the ruling side and the opposition has only widened, and the two sides continue to be in campaign mode.

Opposition walks out during Modi's reply in Rajya Sabha

As LoP Kharge not allowed to speak

New Delhi (Agency): The opposition MPs staged a walkout on Wednesday during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's reply in Rajya Sabha, saying the Leader of the Opposition in the upper house was not allowed to speak. While Modi was replying to the debate on the 'Motion of Thanks' on the President's address, Kharge tried to intervene. However, Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar did not allow him to speak. Following this, the Parliamentarians from the INDIA bloc took to sloganeering by shouting "LoP ko bolne do" (Let the Leader of Opposition speak) and later opted to walk out in protest. Following the walkout, Modi said the opposition is running away, adding that "they are insulting the Upper House, the glorious tradition of the Upper House".

Claiming that the country is watching that those who spread lies do not have the strength to hear the truth, the PM said, "Those who do not have the courage to face truth, do not have courage to listen to the answers to questions that were raised in these discussions." Dhankhar alleged that the opposition challenged the Constitution and disregarded the oath they took by walking out. "Khargeji insulted oath of the office by staging walkout. They made a mockery of the Constitution. I hope they introspect," he added. "I urged them the LoP was given adequate time to speak without any interruptions. Today, they did not leave the House behind, they have left behind dignity. Today, they did not show their back, they showed it to the Constitution of India," Dhankhar alleged.

Assam RS MP calls for recognition of Majuli as a premier wedding destination

Guwahati (Agency): In her maiden speech in Parliament, author and philanthropist Sudha Murty passionately advocated recognition of Majuli, the world's largest river island and a UNESCO heritage site in Assam, as a premier wedding destination. Murty, nominated to the Rajya Sabha by President Murmu, highlighted Majuli's serene beauty and rich cultural heritage, contrasting it with the high-profile, glamorous weddings of celebrities like the Ambanis.



While international destinations are in high demand for weddings, Majuli remains unknown to 90 per cent of the population, she lamented. She called on Indians to embrace the island's natural charm and vibrant culture, which includes Neo-Vaishnavite monasteries, traditional handicrafts, and indigenous festivals. Nestled in the mighty Brahmaputra, Majuli boasts of scenic landscapes and cultural significance, recognized by the Guinness World Records.

Murty's proposal challenges the trend of lavish weddings, suggesting instead a celebration of simplicity and cultural depth. She emphasised that, in another country, Majuli would be a top destination for weddings, entertainment, and recreation. By promoting Majuli, Murty hopes to shift the focus from mainstream hotspots to this hidden gem, encouraging a deeper appreciation for India's own cultural treasures.

Hathras stampede: Akhilesh blames administrative negligence

Lucknow (Agency): Samajwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav alleged that the Hathras stampede, in which 121 people, mostly women, were killed, happened due to the negligence of the Uttar Pradesh government.

Describing the Hathras tragedy as very painful in a statement on Wednesday, he conveyed his condolences to the families of the deceased.

SP president said, "The government and administration know well whenever such programmes take place, a large number of people come to attend them. Despite having all the information, the government didn't make the necessary arrangements. The government is responsible for the loss of lives."

He further said that if the government had arranged ambulances and vehicles, many lives could have been saved. "What's more painful is that the injured who reached hospitals did not receive adequate treatment. Neither medicines nor oxygen was made available to them," he added.

The SP chief said, "They (the government) talk of becoming 'vishwa guru' (world leaders) and make tall claims about India becoming the fifth largest economy in the world, but the truth is that this government cannot provide proper treatment to the people in an emergency."

He alleged that the BJP government in the state ruined the entire system. What kind of economy is this where there is no hospital, no medicine, no treatment, and no oxygen; he asked and said, "All the claims of the BJP government are false. There is nothing in this government except lies and loot. Corruption is at its peak with every department involved in it," he alleged.

Pointing out that 50,000 people were allowed to attend the Satsang, he asked what the administration would have done if more people had come. "Why they did not stop it? If more were coming in large numbers, why the administration did not increase security? Why barricading was not done? Was it not the responsibility of the government, he asked.

The government is responsible for non-availability of oxygen and medicine. People lost their lives due to the laxity of the government. They should not put their responsibility on others, he said.





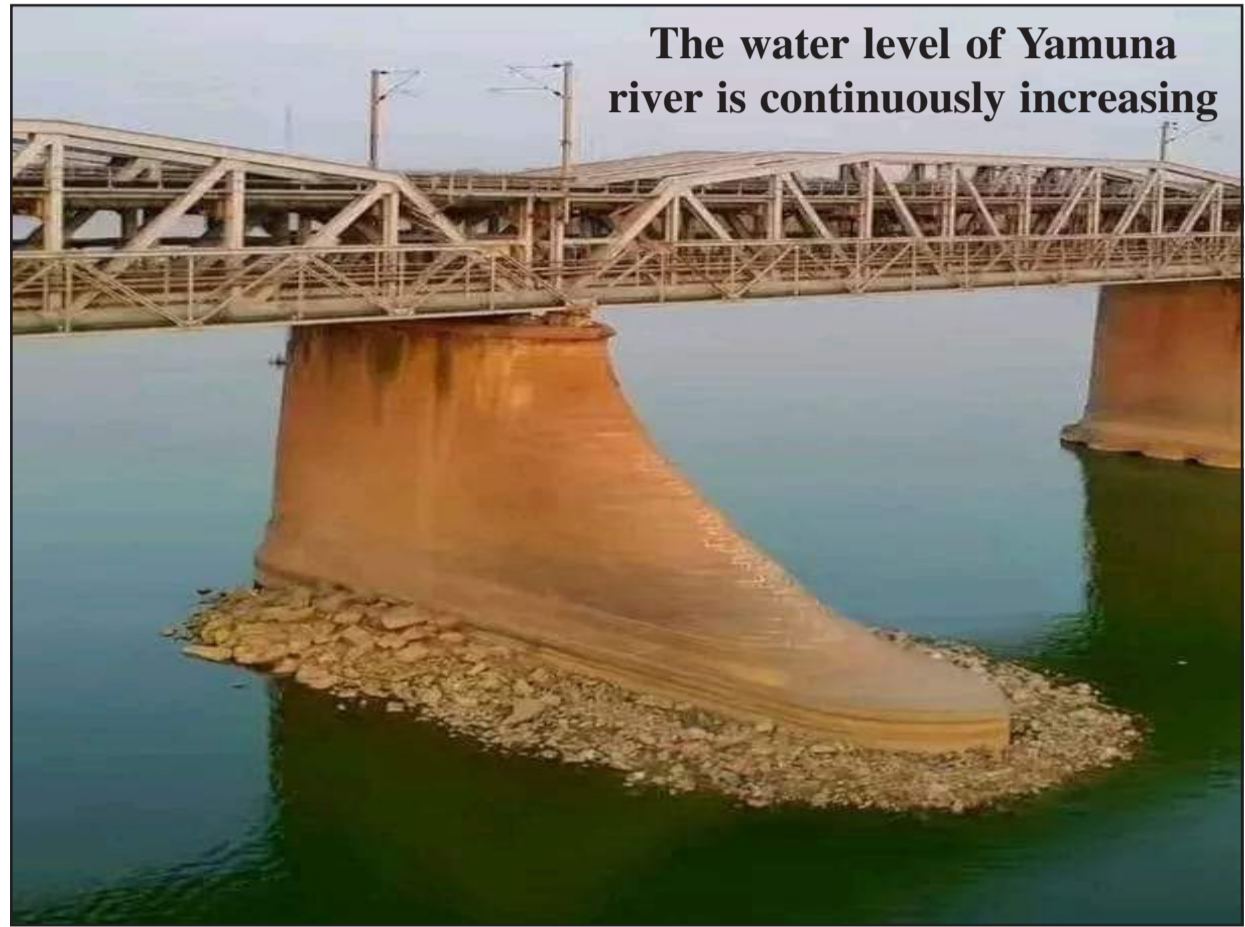
The road is being widened at the parade ground



Construction of concrete ghat in Dara Ganj is being done on war footing



Devotees preparing crown for Lord in Jagannath Rath Yatra



The water level of Yamuna river is continuously increasing

Rotary Prayagraj Sangam organised voluntary blood donation camp

UJALA SHIKHAR

Prayagraj: Under the joint aegis of Rotary Prayagraj Sangam and Capin Consultant Private Limited, a voluntary blood donation camp was organized at Allahabad Nursing Home Association Blood Bank in Prayagraj in which a total of 14 blood donors donated blood. On this occasion, Rtn. Dr. Amit Tripathi, Assistant Governor of Rotary District 3120, was present as the chief guest. He told that blood cannot be made artificially; it is produced automatically in the human body. There is no other option for its supply. By donating blood, the process of blood growth in the body becomes healthier than before.

He also told that donating blood controls the excess amount of iron which is very good for heart

health. By donating blood, new blood and new cells are formed in the body which thins the blood. Any healthy person can donate blood three times a year without any problem.

In this program, Rtn. Amarendra Singh, Rtn. Vartika Singh and all the employees on behalf of Capin Consultant Pvt. Ltd and President of Rotary Prayagraj Sangam, Rtn. Mandeep Srivastava, Secretary Rtn. Pinky Mukherjee, Treasurer, Rtn. Sadhna Srivastava, Rtn. Rishi Agarwal, Rtn. Avinash Kumar, Rtn. Anurag Asthana, Rtn. Ravindra Tripathi, Rtn. Rajesh Kumar, Rtn. Sachin Upadhyay, Rtn. Amit Kulshrestha, Rtn. Dr. Ankit Srivastava, Rtn. Dr. Madhushree, Rtn. Puneet Srivastava, Rtn. Pawan Ji Srivastava etc. were present.

Court orders trial court to facilitate testimony via video conferencing

BY HARSHIT GUPTA, ADVOCATE, HIGH COURT ALLAHABAD

Prayagraj: In a significant ruling, the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad has directed a trial court to facilitate the testimony of Hareram Singh, a plaintiff currently in jail, through video conferencing. This decision overturns the trial court's earlier order which had closed the opportunity for Singh to present his evidence.

The order was passed in response to a petition filed by Mr. Harshit Gupta on behalf of Hareram Singh, who had sought a permanent prohibitory injunction concerning his suit property. Mr. Gupta argued that due to his incarceration, he could not be produced in court, and the trial court should have invoked Order 16A Rule 2 of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908, to ensure his presence. Alternatively, the trial court could have utilized the Rules for

Video Conferencing for Courts in Uttar Pradesh, 2020.

Justice Ajit Kumar, presiding over the case which was argued Mr. Harshit Gupta, Advocate assisted by Aditya Malviya, Advocate noted the plaintiff's critical role in providing evidence in his suit. The judge emphasized that Singh must be allowed to present his oral testimony. The court acknowledged that while bringing Singh to court from jail might be challenging, his testimony could be recorded through video conferencing as per the 2020 guidelines.

The Video Conferencing Rules, 2020, stipulate that such facilities can be used at all stages of judicial proceedings. They ensure that all courtesies and protocols applicable to a physical court also apply to virtual proceedings. The



rules mandate that video conferencing can be requested by any party or witness involved in the proceedings, with appropriate orders being passed by the court to facilitate this.

In his order, Justice Kumar highlighted sections of the video conferencing rules, including the requirement for identity proof and the protocol for recording and

preserving video testimony. The judge also referred to a circular issued by the Registrar General of the High Court on March 5, 2024, which addressed the audio-visual recording

and storage of evidence obtained through video conferencing.

Given these considerations, the High Court set aside the trial court's order dated April 3, 2024. The petitioner, Hareram Singh, has been directed to file an application under Section 6 of the Video Conferencing Rules within two weeks. The trial court is then expected to pass an appropriate order based on these guidelines. The High Court's decision underscores the judiciary's commitment to ensuring fair trial practices, even amid logistical challenges posed by a plaintiff's incarceration. The Registrar General has been instructed to circulate this judgment to all district judges in the state to inform judicial officers about the application of video conferencing rules in similar cases.

राहुल ईसाई भारत छोड़ो

- राहुल गाँधी हिन्दुओं को हिंसक कहने के लिए ईसाई मिशनरियों से पैसे लिए ???
- राहुल गाँधी हिन्दुओं को बदनाम करने के लिए मुस्लिमों से पैसे लिए???
- राहुल गाँधी हिन्दु आस्था से बार बार खिलवाड़ कर रहे हैं
- बौद्धिक क्षमता को क्रय नहीं किया जा सकता



श्रीमद् जगद्गुरु रामानुजाचार्य स्वामी
नारायणाचार्य शंङ्किल्यमहाराज
श्रृंगवेष्टुर पीठाधीश्वर

Prayagraj. Hoardings put up in front of Anand Bhawan, the ancestral residence of Gandhi Nehru in Sangam city, hoardings written with slogans of leaving India and calling Rahul Gandhi a Christian. Religious guru Ramanujacharya Swami Narayanacharya Shandilya Maharaj got the hoardings put up.

New agricultural education institutes on the anvil: ABVP

Prayagraj: In Delhi, a delegation led by the National General Secretary of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, Shri Yagyavalkya Shukla, submitted a memorandum to the Union Minister of Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, with various demands related to the improvement in agricultural education, such as opening of new educational institutions, improving the functioning of various existing agricultural education institutions. Improvement in the infrastructure of the institutions, improvement in the standards of agricultural education etc. Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad requested Shivraj Singh Chouhan to make immediate efforts to promote

agricultural research, to meet the current needs of the students studying agriculture. Points like creation of suitable opportunities, uniformity in standards of agricultural higher education, efforts to promote agricultural entrepreneurship have been made. National General Secretary of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, Shri Yagyavalkya Shukla said that the agricultural sector of the country is the means of livelihood of a large population. Is. Vidyarthi Parishad has informed the Union Agriculture Minister about the need for various efforts like rapid improvement in agricultural education in the country, creation of high quality educational institu-

tions in all the states for agricultural education. Vidyarthi Parishad hopes that the Government of In-

ABVP National Minister Shivangi Kharwal said that according to the National Education Policy



dia and the State Governments will immediately take corrective efforts on agricultural education and agriculture related issues.

2020, the curriculum of subjects like agriculture and related sub-sectors like horticulture, dairy technology, food technology,

fisheries, biotechnology, agricultural engineering, sericulture etc. will be made in different mother tongues. There is a need to immediately form committees of subject experts for translation. The delegation received by Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan included ABVP's National General Secretary Yagyavalkya Shukla, National Minister Virendra Solanki, Rahul Rana, Buddhadev Bagh, Shivangi Kharwal, Shalini Verma, Ankit Shukla, Shravan B Raj, AgriVision's National convener Shubham Patel, ABVP Delhi State Minister Harsh Atri and Delhi University Students Union President Tushar Dedha were present.

EDITORIAL

LEGAL MARGIN

Vikas Gupta "Advocate"

District and Sessions Court Prayagraj

Judges are not God, do not cry or plead with folded hands in front of them



Judge is not a God, do not cry or plead with folded hands in front of him... On what did the High Court say? During the hearing in the High Court, the petitioner started crying with folded hands. After this the court said that the judge is not a god and there is no need to fold hands in front of him. Judges are not God, they are just discharging their constitutional responsibilities, hence petitioners or lawyers should not plead with folded hands in front of them. Kerala High Court made this comment during the hearing of a case. Justice PV Kunhikrishnan was hearing a case during which the petitioner started pleading before him with folded hands and started crying. Meanwhile, Justice Kunhikrishnan made this comment. Justice Justice PV Kunhikrishnan said, "First of all, I want to say that there is no need for any petitioner or lawyer to plead with folded hands, because the judge is performing his constitutional duty. Usually we call the court the temple of justice, but it does not mean that some God is sitting on the judge's chair. It is enough that the petitioner or the lawyers maintain common courtesy. There is no need to fold hands and plead.

What is the whole matter? A woman named Ramla Kabir had approached the High Court and demanded quashing of the FIR registered against her. Kabir is accused of threatening the Circle Officer of Alappuzha (North) over the phone and using abusive language. During the hearing, Kabir said that false allegations have been made against her. She herself had filed a complaint. In which a complaint was made about noise in a prayer meeting. The Circle Officer was instructed to investigate this. Kabir says that when I asked him to inquire about the progress of the investigation, he misbehaved with her over the phone. According to Kabir, after this she complained about it to senior police officers and IG. After this complaint, a counter case was registered against Kabir out of revenge.

What order did the High Court give? According to a report by the Legal Desk of Ujala News, after hearing the arguments of both the parties and seeing the final report, the High Court said that prima facie it seems that the allegation is not true. The court canceled the FIR registered against Kabir. The court also said that it appears that the FIR was registered against Kabir out of vengeance. The court also ordered a departmental inquiry. - Ujala News Group Legal Desk

Taliban Diplomacy

The recent UN-led meeting in Doha marked a significant moment for international diplomacy as the Taliban participated for the first time. This event has sparked varied reactions globally, highlighting the complexities and challenges surrounding Afghanistan's current political and economic landscape. The Taliban's participation underscores a critical shift in the geopolitical dynamics of the region. Despite global criticism, particularly from women's rights activists, the inclusion of the Taliban in such a forum signals a pragmatic approach by the international community. Engaging with the Taliban, rather than isolating them, may be seen as a necessary step towards addressing the multifaceted crises in Afghanistan. India's involvement in the meeting, marked by the attendance of senior diplomat J.P. Singh, indicates a nuanced strategy. India's engagement with the Taliban, including discussions on bilateral relations and expressions of mutual gratitude, reflect recognition of the geopolitical realities. For India, maintaining a diplomatic channel with the Taliban is crucial for regional stability and for safeguarding its strategic interests, particularly in light of its historical ties with Afghanistan. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's visit to Doha further underscores India's commitment to playing an active role in regional diplomacy. By engaging with Qatar, a key player in West Asian politics, India aims to bolster its influence and ensure that its perspectives are considered in any regional developments involving Afghanistan.

The Taliban's focus on "economic orientation" in their foreign policy highlights a shift from purely ideological pursuits to pragmatic considerations. The regime's call for the removal of sanctions and the emphasis on infrastructure projects like the Trans-Afghan railway and the TAPI Pipeline reveal a desire to integrate Afghanistan into regional economic frameworks. These projects, if realised, could significantly enhance connectivity and economic cooperation between Central and South Asia. However, the success of these initiatives is contingent on a stable and secure environment, which remains a significant challenge given the on-going security issues in the region. The Taliban's efforts to position themselves as a viable economic partner are complicated by their controversial governance practices and the international community's apprehensions about their commitment to human rights and inclusive governance. The Taliban's engagement with other regional powers, including Uzbekistan, Russia, and Saudi Arabia, indicates a broader strategy to secure economic and political support. Saudi Arabia's intention to reopen its embassy in Kabul and Kazakhstan's removal of the Taliban from its list of prohibited groups suggest a gradual normalisation of relations. China's recognition of a Taliban-appointed ambassador earlier this year further underscores this trend. Nevertheless, the international community remains divided on how to approach the Taliban. While some countries advocate conditional engagement to incentivise reforms, others remain staunchly opposed to legitimising a regime with a contentious human rights record. The path forward for Afghanistan is fraught with challenges, but constructive dialogue and pragmatic diplomacy may offer the best hope for a stable and prosperous future.



Daily-wagers need more protection

BHARAT DOGRA

Recent heat waves have shown that they can turn into killers for the poor if they are unable to take appropriate protective measures. Of course, protective instructions have been emphasized repeatedly including avoiding going out in heat wave conditions. However these can be meaningless for those daily wage workers who need to work even in the most difficult conditions to keep hunger at bay.

In the course of recent conversations with Delhi-based open space workers exposed to heat, it transpired that while a few avoided working on the hottest days, numerous were those workers who stated that even on such days they went out to seek work on daily wages. In terms of working as well as living conditions, the vulnerability of working class, poor and homeless people in cities of South Asia is increasing in times of heat waves as they are exposed to increasing health problems, difficulties and stress.

This is evident from several recent reports from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh

and other parts of South Asia where a significant number of heat-related deaths have also been reported. While open-space workers like those engaged in construction are being exposed to heat at the work place, the overall impact is worsened by having to return to hot living conditions after work with the increasing tendency of nights also recording high temperatures.

Electricity and water problems add to these problems. There is increasing evidence of working class living areas and colonies being much hotter than the areas inhabited by the elite sections which tend generally to have a much higher green cover with several parks and rows of trees. The homeless people are most intensely exposed to hot weather during day and night.

All these factors which increase the problems of workers and related sections of the urban poor have been at work on a vast scale in the recent heat wave in South Asia. Recent interviews with open-space workers at three locations

Recent heat waves have shown that they can turn into killers for the poor if they are unable to take appropriate protective measures. Of course, protective instructions have been emphasized repeatedly including avoiding going out in heat wave conditions.

in Delhi revealed that almost all of them felt that during this summer, the heat was the worst they had ever experienced. Several of them mentioned increasing health problems at work sites and falling ill more frequently.

There has not been any significant improvement in workplace conditions and such essentials as ensuring supply of clean and cold drinking water or shady, cooler places for rest are not always available. Some kind employers ensure this while others do not, workers said. Workers reacted very favourably to the idea of a subsistence allowance being provided to all vulnerable households in heat wave conditions. Such a move has been initiated in Ahmedabad under the heat

action plan for the city, and needs consideration at a much wider level. The vulnerability of the homeless and destitute people living on footpaths or roadsides or under flyovers is the highest.

According to a leading NGO of Pakistan, the Edhi Foundation, 450 people died in just four days in the last week of June in the port city of Karachi which at a stretch of several days experienced temperatures exceeding 40 degrees C. The foundation stated that most of those who died were homeless people living on the streets. In Delhi, a report of the Centre for Holistic Development stated that 192 homeless persons died within a span of nine days in mid-June due largely to heat-wave conditions. Acting on a com-

plaint made on the basis of this as well as additional information, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has sought a detailed report from the Delhi government.

Such reports of a large number of deaths of homeless people indicate both the increased severity of heat waves as well as pre-existing high vulnerabilities of homeless and destitute people. Earlier the concern over high risks faced by them in cities like Delhi was confined mainly to the shorter winter season, but now they face high risks all around the year. The highest risks are now at the time of heat waves. As this writer has been pleading for a long time, the programmes for homeless people need to change keeping in view the changing situation, but this has not yet been adequately reflected in initiatives for homeless people.

Recent inquiries made by this writer at labour chowks – gathering points of daily wage workers where they are hired – indicated that generally no shelter and shade for workers is provided. This makes wait-

ing here very difficult during the extended hot days as well as rainy days. Shelter, shade and drinking water facilities should be provided at all labour chowks. Even in the morning hours, many workers at the gathering site look tired and stressed. They say that at times during the recent heat wave, they felt that they could not carry on any further. Yet such are the compulsions of survival that the next day they again found themselves heading towards the labour chowk.

Keeping in view this extreme vulnerability of workers to heat waves in times of global warming, governments need to do much more to bring relief to open space workers as well as to homeless people. South Asia is one part of the world where the impact of heat waves can be most harmful for open-space workers and homeless people, and hence this region is a special area of concern. (The writer is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now. His recent books include Protecting Earth for Children, Man over Machine and A Day in 2071.)

Bring big-ticket items into the GST net

SUSHMA RAMACHANDRAN

WHEN the Goods and Services Tax (GST) was launched seven years ago, on July 1, 2017, there were many fears over its implementation. The decision to go ahead with the launch was considered reckless, given that the country was barely recovering from the chaos of demonetisation the year before. There were dire predictions by economists and tax experts that the tax would fail in its aim as the country was not 'ready' for it. It was then Finance Minister Arun Jaitley who took the call to introduce the tax without any further delay. This proved to be the wisest move, as it would have taken an inordinately long time for the stakeholders in the economy to be fully prepared for the development.

It must be recalled that the concept of the one-point tax had already been deliberated on for about 18 years. The idea of replacing the innumerable indirect Central and state taxes with a single levy had been mooted way back in 1999 at the time of the Vajpayee government. The proposal emanated from the Vijay Kelkar task force, which recommended a unified tax system to simplify compliance and promote economic integration. There were also studies showing that the countries that had adopted this system benefited in

terms of improved efficiency and enhanced economic growth.

An empowered committee of state Finance Ministers was set up in 2000, which was headed by then West Bengal Finance Minister Asim Dasgupta. This was the forerunner of the present GST Council, which represents all states to ensure that revenue issues are considered by the Centre and the states in a consensual manner. It was this committee that prepared the first draft of the Bill and carried out complex negotiations to bring all states on board. The process took nearly two decades, but there remained hesitation over the launch even after broad consensus was achieved in 2016.

One reason was the complexity brought into the original concept of a single-point tax. This stemmed from the states' worries over losing revenues from the existing taxes. The result was a multi-layered system that is still in operation. So, there is an integrated GST levied on the inter-state movement of goods along with Central, state and union territory GSTs. Plus, there are four tax slabs, ranging from five to 28 per cent.

Not only that, states insisted on keeping the two biggest cash cows in revenue terms out of the pur-

There is no getting away from the fact that it is time to carry out rationalisation of the rate structure

view of the GST. That is, petroleum and alcohol. The biggest concern at the time of the launch was whether the states would be able to manage with the resources mobilised through the new

the last two years compared to the pre-GST era.

This means that the states may be able to manage without relying further on the compensation mechanism built into the



indirect tax. All these fears have now been shown to be completely misplaced. In fact, revenue mobilisation has soared far beyond expectations. The latest data shows that GST collections touched Rs 1.74 lakh crore in June, compared to the average monthly inflow of about

Rs 90,000 crore in the first year of its implementation. In addition, a Reserve Bank of India study has shown the states' share of own revenues has risen in

GST framework at the outset. It was initially meant to be for five years, but it has now been extended as a result of Covid-19 till 2026. In case revenue buoyancy continues, it may be possible to finally end this provision.

Overall, there have undoubtedly been many hiccups in the implementation, especially in reducing red tape and simplifying procedures. But the GST Council, in which all states are represented, meets regularly to

iron out problems and carries out firefighting wherever needed. The initial problem was to bring small and tiny businesses into the GST network by introducing computerisation. The disruptive effect on the small industry was tremendous, to the extent that the GST was reviled as being destructive to it. On the contrary, it has ended up bringing lakhs of small enterprises into the digital economy.

A major fear was that the GST would create a higher tax burden for the common man. This has also been proven groundless as studies now show that 60 per cent of consumption items face the lowest tax slab of five per cent or nil tax. On the other hand, only three per cent of consumption items face the heaviest tax of 28 per cent.

Yet, there is no getting away from the fact that it is time to carry out rationalisation of the GST rate structure. The original concept of a single-point levy may not be achievable immediately, but the tax slabs need to be reduced to achieve more simplicity in the long run.

The other critical step needed is to bring big-ticket items into the GST net. This includes petroleum, though electricity and land are now

also being mentioned for inclusion. As a first step, petroleum products like aviation turbine fuel and natural gas could be brought under the purview of the GST, though it is also high time for the inclusion of petrol and diesel. Alcohol is difficult to touch as it remains a sensitive commodity for states. Taxation from this sector brings considerable revenues, but it will also have to be roped into the GST net sooner rather than later.

In its recent meeting, the GST Council took some business-friendly measures to help micro and small enterprises by giving amnesty on legacy disputes and raising the ceiling for appeals on disputes. The need for a GST appellate tribunal is similarly being felt, as appeals on disputes need to be dealt with rapidly. There is much that can be done to improve the implementation of the GST, and this includes further simplification of procedures and rationalisation of rates. Yet, the original concept of a single-point levy will remain unachievable unless large segments of the economy, like petroleum, are brought under its purview. The Centre has to take the initiative, but the states also need to adopt a rational and long-term view so that the GST can fulfil its avowed objective of speeding up economic growth.

Golazo FC steamroll Former Champions Delhi FC

Prayagraj: Golazo FC flexed their muscles in an 12-0 demolition of 2021-22 champions Delhi FC to make it two wins in two in Group D. It took just three minutes to open the scoring via their dynamic forward Stephen Satarkar.

In the 10th minute, Shabaz Rogangar drilled it in on the turn before Clinton Rosario D'Souza squeezed in from close range in the 14th. Then it was Lalsangkima's turn to go on a solo run and blast it past Atou B Sumi in the Delhi goal. Satarkar and Shubham Potghan added two more for Golazo to take a 6-0 lead at half-time.

The second half belonged to Lalsangkima as he went on a spree, scoring



three more goals of a solo nature in the 22nd, 30th and 32nd minutes. Eshaan also joined the party with a deft finish in the 25th minute, while Clinton scored his

second in the 38th. Satarkar, who scored the first also closed the scoring, completing his hat-trick in the 40th minute to end it 12-0.

Golazo FC Team Offi-

cial: Head Coach - Joshua Vaj, Asst. Coach - Nikhil Mali, Goalkeeping Coach - Indranil Ghosh, Manager - Rituraj Salunke and Asst. Manager - Rohit.

Candle march by Congmen in memory of Hathras victims

Prayagraj: The members of District Congress taken out the candle march at the Gandhi Statue at Balson crossing to pay condolences to the devotees who lost their lives in Hathras stampede yesterday in a religious discourse. The party members led by Gangapur President Suresh Yadav expressed condolences to the bereaved families and wished speedy recovery of the injured. They send a letter to the state Governor urging her to order quick action to arrest the religious preacher and other those who held responsible of the event, constitute Judicial inquiry into the tragedy and ex gratia of Rs. 25 lacks and 5 lacks each to the deceased and injured person. They blamed the massive failure of local administration including police personnel. State General Secretary Mukund Tiwari, UPCC members Fuzail Hashimi, Kishore Varshney and Harikesh Tripathi, Sanjay Tiwari, Manoj Pasi, Haseeb Ahmed, Arshad Ali, Rais Ahmed, Rakesh Patel, Parvej Khushnaveda Farukhi others were present.

Talent award ceremony of Martyr Nebulal Bind held

Prayagraj: Martyrdom day tribute meeting and talent award ceremony of Martyr Nebulal Bind ji was organized. To commemorate the memorial day of Martyr Sub Spector Nebulal Bind in the Kanpur Bikaru incident, the prize distribution ceremony of Shaheed Nebulal Bind Memorial Talent Search Competition was organized at Bhati Handia Prayagraj today in which 100 participating children were felicitated in which in Group (A) Rachit Khushboo Yadav, Sachin Yadav stood first, second and third respectively and in Group (B) Saurabh Bind, Anurag, Nidhi Maurya stood first, second and third respectively. On this occasion, Chief Gyanpur MLA Vipul Dubey, former block chief Suresh Maurya, Dr. R K Bind, Dr. J S Bind, Dr. Mithilesh Bind honored the

children by giving them medal certificates and wished them good luck for their bright future. Shaheed, the organizer of the program, honored the children. Arvind Kumar Bind, Himanshu Bind, son of Nebulal Bind, and the pro-



gram was presided over by Kalika Prasad ji, Om Prakash, Vijay Prakash, Jai Prakash, Anup Bind, Nandlal Bind Sir ji, Rahul, Rakesh, participated in the program. Vijay, Jogendra, Sanjeev, Dharmendra, Amar, Laxman, Suresh, Vikas, Bhanu, Mamta, Poonam, Sunil Vidharthi.

BJP members paid tribute to Hathras victims

Prayagraj: Bharatiya Janata Party Bhardwaj Mandal paid tribute to the deceased devotees of Hathras incident and expressed condolences. Expressing condolences, former cabinet minister Narendra Kumar Singh

peace, former metropolitan president was among those who paid tribute. Shashi Varshney Councilor Ashish Dwivedi, Rajesh Kesarwani, Arun Patel, Gyanendra Gupta and Ganesh Verma, Vikas Srivastava Aman Sharma,



Gaur, BJP metropolitan Rajendra Mishra, district spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani, may God give strength to the family members of the deceased in this painful incident to bear the sorrow, may the deceased soul rest in

Shatrughan Jaiswal, Ajay Agrahari Akhileshwar Mishra, Ram Gopal Shukla, Yashveer Pratap Singh, Anshu Sahu, Lokesh Mukherjee, Shantanu Ghosh, Vineeta Gupta Madhavi. Chatterjee Anshul Goswami etc.

IFFCO's Nano Fertilizer Promotion Campaign launched

Varanasi: To promote the use of nano fertilizers, the Nano Fertilizer Usage Promotion Mahaabhiyan has been launched by IFFCO. Under this, 200 model nano village clusters have been selected by IFFCO. Through this, farmers of 800 villages are being given a subsidy of 25 percent on the price (MRP) of Nano Urea Plus, Nano DAP and Sagarika by IFFCO so that farmers can use nano fertilizers more and more in their fields. Along with this, IFFCO will give a grant of Rs 100 per acre to the drone entrepreneur so that farmers can get the facility of spraying at low rates. Farmers will be made aware of the increase in the quality and production of the crop in these model nano villages.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has also launched 100 days action plan to increase the use of nano fertilizers in agriculture, under which 1270 demonstrations of Nano DAP (liquid) will be conducted in 413 districts and 200 trials of Nano Urea

Plus (liquid) in 100 districts. In these trials, the help of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, State Agricultural University and other research institutions will be taken and monitored by the Government of India.

Nano fertilizers will be made available by IFFCO to the cooperative society and other sales outlets. Farmers will be told about the benefits of nano fertilizers. IFFCO is providing 2500 agricultural drones for farmers for spraying nano fertilizers, for which 300 'Nano Drone Didi' and drone entrepreneurs have been prepared. Apart from this, other types of sprayers have also been made available through which farmers will be able to easily spray nano fertilizers in their fields. Contracts have been made with 15 institutions to spray 245 lakh acres of area by drones which will spray in the fields of farmers. An incentive of Rs 100 per acre will also be provided on each spray.

From August 2021 to June 26, 2024, a total of 7.55 crore Nano Urea and 0.69

crore Nano DAP bottles produced by IFFCO have been used by farmers. In order to provide maximum benefit to the farmers, IFFCO has set a target of producing 4 crore Nano

publicity, field testing, training of secretaries of cooperative societies etc. in all the districts of the country. The Ministry of Fertilizers will also collaborate to implement this scheme so



Urea Plus and 2 crore Nano DAP bottles in the year 2024-25. In this sequence, from April 2024, IFFCO has made available Nano Urea Plus (liquid) 20% w/v N of high concentration to the farmers, which will help in increasing quality crop productivity and environmental protection.

Under this campaign, IFFCO has also planned

that the use of nano fertilizers in place of chemical fertilizers in the fields can be encouraged. Under this mega campaign, it has been planned to provide 6 crore bottles of nano fertilizers which will be distributed through 36000 member cooperative societies of IFFCO and other cooperative societies.

It will also be ensured

that availability of nano fertilizers is made at each Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSK). IFFCO is providing nano fertilizers to farmers by entering into marketing agreements with Indian Potash Limited (IPL), Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT), Brahmputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF), National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) etc.

In August 2021, IFFCO has commercially produced the world's first indigenous nano urea based on nanotechnology, giving the whole world a great alternative to conventional urea. In March 2023, IFFCO has also made nano DAP (liquid) available to farmers to reduce the use of DAP fertilizer. In view of the serious problem of environmental imbalance worldwide, there is a need to reduce the use of conventional chemical fertilizers in farming by nano fertilizers. As a result, the country can be

strengthened economically and globally by realizing the concept of 'self-reliant agriculture' and 'self-reliant India' with environmental protection.

Talking about the harm caused by indiscriminate use of urea, the use efficiency of urea is less than 30 percent, more than 70 percent of the quantity in the form of gas (NOx) harms the environment, water pollution in the form of nitrate (NO3) and soil health in the form of ammonia (NH4+, NO3). Conventional urea has a role to play in the high incidence of pests and diseases, crop fall and crop inability to tolerate adversity. The benefits of nanofertilizers are several such as improvement in soil health, reduction in water and air pollution, increase in crop production and quality, reduction in use of conventional fertilizers, reduction in incidence of pests and diseases; Ease of transportation and storage and environmental friendliness are the main ones.

Woman's body parts exhumed 15 years after she went 'missing' in Kerala's Alappuzha

Thiruvananthapuram (Agency): The Kerala police on Tuesday exhumed body parts believed to belong to a woman, who went missing 15 years ago, from the septic tank of her husband's home at Eramathoor near Mannar in the Alappuzha district. Police said that Kala was allegedly killed by her husband Anil and his associates. Kala went missing from Mannar in 2009. Despite her husband Anil filing a missing persons report, the initial investigation yielded no leads. Kala's parents had already passed away, and her two brothers did not pursue the matter further. Anil remarried and now has children from both marriages. Currently employed as a construction contractor, Anil left for Israel two months ago.

started a covert investigation and got some clues," District Police Chief Chaithra Theresa John said.

"Later, we took five persons into custody and they confessed to the crime. They confirmed the claim in the letter that Kala's body was dumped in the septic tank," the district police chief said. The exhumed body parts will now be sent for forensic examination and DNA test, and only after that it could be ascertained whether they were of Kala, the District Police Chief further said.

Narrating the background of the crime, the District Police chief (DPC) said that Anil, who was engaged in construction work, and Kala, belonging to different castes, fell in love and married against the wishes of Anil's family. After the marriage, she lived in the house of one of Anil's relatives. After one year, she gave birth to a son. Later, Anil went to Angola for a job.

After being alerted by relatives that Kala was having an affair with a youth, Anil flew back. On the pretext of sorting out the issue through discussion, he took her to Kuttanad, and strangled her with the help of his associates inside a vehicle, the DPC said.

Anil concocted a story that Kala eloped with her

lover, abandoning her son. Everyone, including Kala's relatives, believed the story. Anil married again and the couple has two children. He reconstructed the old house but did not destroy the old septic tank. He went to Israel for work a few months ago. After receiving the anonymous letter, the police reopened the file and took some relatives of Anil into custody, which led to the arrest of others.

Anil's relative Soman is in police custody along with Suresh, Pramod, Santhosh, and Jinu Rajan. Steps have been initiated to bring Anil back from Israel, the DPC said.

The Kerala police on Tuesday exhumed body parts believed to belong to a woman, who went missing 15 years ago, from the septic tank of her husband's home at Eramathoor near Mannar in the Alappuzha district. Police said that Kala was allegedly killed by her husband Anil and his associates.

Kala went missing from Mannar in 2009. Despite her husband Anil filing a missing persons report, the initial investigation yielded no leads. Kala's parents had already passed away, and her two brothers did not pursue the matter further. Anil remarried and now has children from both mar-

riages. Currently employed as a construction contractor, Anil left for Israel two months ago.

The Ambalappuzha police recently received an anonymous letter regarding the case. This letter reportedly originated from an incident in which one of the involved individuals unintentionally revealed details during a heated argument with his wife, including threats of inflicting a similar fate as the deceased woman.

"The letter claimed that Kala was strangled to death by her husband and relatives, and buried in the septic tank in his house. We started a covert investigation and got some clues," District Police Chief Chaithra Theresa John said.

"Later, we took five persons into custody and they confessed to the crime. They confirmed the claim in the letter that Kala's body was dumped in the septic tank," the district police chief said. The exhumed body parts will now be sent for forensic examination and DNA test, and only after that it could be ascertained whether they were of Kala, the District Police Chief further said.

Narrating the background of the crime, the District Police chief (DPC) said that Anil, who was en-

gaged in construction work, and Kala, belonging to different castes, fell in love and married against the wishes of Anil's family. After the marriage, she lived in the house of one of Anil's relatives. After one year, she gave birth to a son. Later, Anil went to Angola for a job.

After being alerted by relatives that Kala was having an affair with a youth, Anil flew back. On the pretext of sorting out the issue through discussion, he took her to Kuttanad, and strangled her with the help of his associates inside a vehicle, the DPC said.

Anil concocted a story that Kala eloped with her lover, abandoning her son. Everyone, including Kala's relatives, believed the story. Anil married again and the couple has two children. He reconstructed the old house but did not destroy the old septic tank. He went to Israel for work a few months ago. After receiving the anonymous letter, the police reopened the file and took some relatives of Anil into custody, which led to the arrest of others.

Anil's relative Soman is in police custody along with Suresh, Pramod, Santhosh, and Jinu Rajan. Steps have been initiated to bring Anil back from Israel, the DPC said.

Vedanta Aluminium bags Kalinga Energy & Environment Excellence Awards

These awards were presented by the Institute of Quality and Environment Management (IQEMS) in association with the Odisha State Pollution Control Board and the Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad.

New Delhi (Agency): Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, has won the prestigious Kalinga Energy Excellence Award and Kalinga Environment Excellence Award for its alumina refinery unit at Lanjigarh in Odisha's Kalahandi district.

These awards were presented by the Institute of Quality and Environment Management (IQEMS) in association with the Odisha State Pollution Control Board and the Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad. While speaking on the achievement, John Slaven, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium, said, "Our success in energy efficiency and environmental conservation, driven by our commitment to sustainable operations, is reflected in our numerous

accolades. Balancing increased operational efficiency with a sustainable value chain is a top priority in our decision-making process."

"These achievements underscore our relentless pursuit of excellence through a sustainable business model, bolstering the



transformational journey of Vedanta Aluminium," he added. Notably, the company's sustainability initiatives have been acknowledged at the highest forums, with Vedanta Aluminium achieving the top score in the S&P Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) rankings for the 2023 assessment period.

Vedanta's Lanjigarh unit, India's premier producer of smelter-grade alumina, has undertaken multiple initiatives as part of Vedanta Aluminium's sustainability goals such as Net Zero Carbon by 2050, Net Water Positivity by 2030, effective waste management, biodiversity res-

toration and adoption of energy-efficient technologies across operations.

The company is contributing to the sustainable transformation of the industry through initiatives such as increasing the usage of renewable energy sources like biomass for boiler cofiring, deploying lithium-

ion electric forklifts, and incentivising employees to use electric vehicles. The company claims that these efforts have resulted in a significant reduction in overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity by approximately 9.3% in FY24 compared to the FY21 baseline while increasing production by approximately 20%.

By leveraging water reutilisation and fostering a water-positive footprint through collaborative efforts with local communities and constant water-level monitoring, Vedanta Aluminium has recycled over 15 billion litres of water across operations during FY24, it said.

Prof. Jyoti Rohilla Rana has joined today

SUSHIL KUMAR MISHRA

Ujala Shikhar Varanasi: Prof. Jyoti Rohilla Rana has joined today as Head in the Department of History of Art, Faculty of Arts, Banaras Hindu University. Former Head, Prof Atul Tripathi handed over the charge to Prof.



Jyoti. Many teachers like Prof Aditya Tripathi, Dr Sheetal Rana, Dr P. Dalai, Dr. Amit Upadhyay, Dr SK Singh and others from various departments of faculty came to congratulate the newly appointed head. After joining she said that Student academic development will be the top priority of the Department.

Decisive role of Sant Samaj in propagating Sanatan culture in country and world: Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Swami Arun Giriswami

Arun Giri made senior journalist Nitisha Bansal his media in-charge

Haridwar: Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Swami Arun Giri Maharaj of Awahan Akhara has appointed senior journalist Nitisha Bansal as his media in-charge. Nitisha Bansal has the blessings of many big saints of the country. Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Swami Arun Giri Maharaj, while blessing Nitisha Bansal, said that participation of



common people should also be ensured in propagating Sanatan culture. Sant Samaj has been playing a decisive role in spreading Sanatan culture in the country and the world. Swami Arun Giri Maharaj said that there should be participation of women in every field. Women are capable of showing their talent

in every field. Nitisha Bansal will also contribute in spreading social, cultural, Hindu culture and Sanatan traditions. He said that the Sant Samaj is always ready to guide the young generation. Nitisha Bansal will have a special contribution in the Maha Kumbh Mela of Prayagraj in 2025. Nitisha Bansal said that all the saints and great men are revered for her. I consider Swami Arun Giri Maharaj as my guru. With his blessings Sanatan culture will be propagated and disseminated all over the world.

Praveen Tiwari selected as Revenue Inspector

Prayagraj: Praveen Tiwari is a resident of Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh; his father, Devi Prasad Tiwari, is a farmer; he was born on June 12, 1996, and acquired his schooling in Prayagraj under the guidance of his uncle. He obtained his schooling at Prayagraj and graduated from engineering school after clearing the 12th grade. Along with it, he continued his studies. On Wednesday, he received his appointment letter as Revenue Inspector from Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar; he will begin his career in Muzaffarnagar district; as a result, the entire family is overjoyed. He finished his schooling under the supervision of his uncle, prominent



journalist Acharya Shrikant Shastriji. Praveen was intelligent since childhood, his family members Dr. Rajkumar Tiwari, Rajesh Tiwari, Piyush Kumar Tiwari, Prabhat Tiwari, Prashant Tiwari, Sanyam Tiwari, Siddhant Tiwari, Yatish Tiwari, Rishabh Tiwari and Ayush Tiwari extended their best wishes to him.

3-day story of Lord Jagannath begins today

Prayagraj: Shri Jagannath Ji Mahotsav Committee Trust Prayagraj, Trust Minister Gagan Gupta prepared a decoction made from dry ginger and jaggery and offered it to Lord Jagannath Ji, who was resting at Arya Bhawan Johari Tola Zero Road, suffering from fever. Trust's Rath Yatra co-ordinator Rajesh Kesarwani said. That Lord Jagannath



ji is continuously being offered Prasad of decoctions made from different herbs. On the third day, he was given Triphon medicine and on the fifth day, Mahaprabhu ji consumed Panchmool medicine decoction due to which his health is improving and today he is a decoction prepared from jaggery and dry ginger was offered and it was told that mainly Ayurvedic medicines like Neem, Celery, Tulsi leaves, black pepper, cinnamon, mace, clove, cardamom are being used in the decoction and on the tenth day on 5th July, Mahaprabhu ji is being offered. Dashmoola medicine decoction Prasad will be offered which the devotees are offering daily to Lord Ji and praying for his health and from July 4 to July 6, Lord Jagannath Ji's Katha will be organized at Arya Bhawan.

Meeting arranged to discuss safe conclusion of Moharram and Kanwar Yatras

Instructions issued to keep suitable arrangements for cleanliness, power, and water during festivities

Prayagraj: In the presence of Prayagraj Police Commissioner Tarun Gaba, District Magistrate Navneet Singh Chahal and other senior officials, a meeting was organized on Wednesday in the District Panchayat Auditorium regarding the preparations being made to conduct Moharram and Kawand Yatra in a peaceful, safe and cordial manner. In the meeting, Police Commissioner Mr. Tarun Gaba said that festivals should be celebrated as per the tradition set earlier and no new tradition should be started. Addressing the people, he said that I would like that we should celebrate the upcoming festivals in a very positive manner by creating communal harmony. According to the old customs and legal guidelines, let us as a team discharge our responsibilities and get them done efficiently. He said that special vigilance and monitoring should be maintained at sensitive places. Strict ac-

tion will be taken against anti-social elements who disturb communal harmony. We will solve your problems by including all your

disturbs the social harmony before it spreads.

In the meeting, District Magistrate Shri Navneet Singh Chahal said that like

before the upcoming festivals, the Municipal Corporation should clean the roads and repair the faulty street lights, the electricity

all the Sub-District Magistrates and Assistant Police Commissioners to visit their respective areas and ensure necessary arrangements. In

considering the suggestions given by you in today's seminar. Necessary action will be taken. He said that non-traditional processions should not be taken out and Tajiya should be taken out on time and on pre-determined routes with standard height and prohibited camels, horses and weapons should not be displayed in the procession. The program was also addressed by DCP Yamunapar Shradha Narendra Pandey, DCP Gangapar Abhishek Bharti, Chief Medical Officer Ashu Pandey, Chief Fire Officer. Chand Bhai conducted the program. On this occasion, ADM City Madan Kumar, ADM Administration Pooja Mishra, Chief Revenue Officer Kunwar Pankaj, City Magistrate Vinod Kumar Singh, Central Peace Committee, ADM City Madan Kumar, ADM Administration Pooja Mishra, Chief Revenue Officer Kunwar Pankaj, City Magistrate Vinod Kumar Singh, Central Peace Committee, Councilors, Tajiadar, Civil Defense, District Crime Prevention Committee members and other concerned officers were present.



suggestions in our action plan. Additional Police Commissioner Shri N. Kolanchi, present in the program, appealed to the police department to share the negative news which

the previous years, the upcoming festivals will be conducted in a peaceful, safe and harmonious manner with brotherhood and harmony. He has asked to make the roads pothole free

department should organize the hanging electrical wires and crooked poles. He has asked to solve the local level problems in all the tehsils before the festival. The District Magistrate has asked

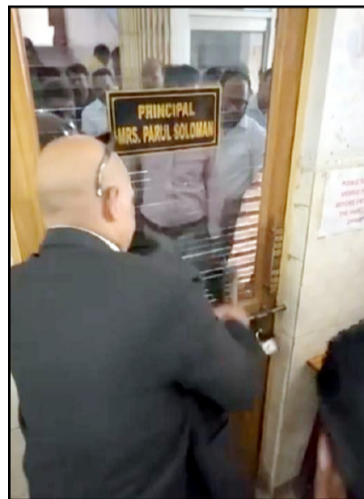
the program, the members of the Peace Committee regarding the safe conduct of the festivals. DCP Nagar Mr. Deepak Bhukar, present in the program, said that

School tussle gets murky, evicted principal fears for life

Prayagraj: An inquiry into the event that occurred at Bishop Johnson Girls Wing in Katra has begun on the orders of senior police officers. An FIR on crime no. 0246 under sections 121, 324 (4), 333, 74, 76, 351 (2), and 309 (4) of BNS 2023 has been filed against two school principals, including Bishop Morris Dan, his son Allan Dan, Dr. Vinita Eusebius, Sanjeet Lal, Vishal Noble Singh, RK Singh, Arun Moses, Tanu Vyas, Abhishek Vyas, and several unidentified individuals. However, in response to media inquiries on Wednesday, ousted principal Parul Solomon voiced fear for her life from a competing group and asked security from authorities.

Johnson Girls Wing Katra Prayagraj, Parul Solomon. In her complaint, she said many cases are pending in the Civil Court and the High Court, Allahabad regarding the management of the school and the High Court has dismissed the civil suit. "In Writ Petition No. 38374 of 2023 (The Diocesan Education Board and others vs Uttar Pradesh Government and three others) vide its order dated 19-

04-2014, a stay order was passed that no policy decision will be taken in relation to the functioning of school. On 07-05-2024, the stay order again being extended by the High Court till 29-07-2024. On 02-07-2024, when the school opened at 07:30 on the Tuesday morning, I reached the school and was sitting in my room when suddenly there was noise at the gate. I looked at from the CCTV camera and saw that Allan Dan and Morris Dan had entered the premises with several others. The applicant got scared and closed the door of her chamber from inside and got the peon locked from outside also so that the life of the applicant could be saved, but all the said people, with the intention of killing the applicant, locked the applicant's chamber. They broke the door with a hammer, the video of which was made by the applicant and the said people entered the applicant's room and started forcing themselves on the applicant," she claimed in her complaint.



For a long time, there

has been a dispute in Prayagraj about the Bishop and other positions in the Diocese of Lucknow (Church of North India). Morris Edgar Dan took over from Bishop Peter Baldev a few months ago. However, the matter has reached the Allahabad High Court. Even after this, the debate over who should govern and administer the convent schools, colleges, and organizations linked with the Diocese of Lucknow grows more intense with each passing day. A fresh instance surfaced on Tuesday afternoon. After much discussion, the famed school Bishop Johnson Road in Katra was in news for wrong reasons. The video reveals the story of the capture, which is going viral after the incident.

A video documenting the capture of the school has also surfaced. Bishop Morris Edgar Dan and his men violently invaded the school and took control. The principal here is Parul Solomon, daughter of previous Bishop Peter Baldev. Her voice is also used in the video. She's asking for aid. This has become a topic of discussion in Prayagraj, even among the Christian community.

Rotary Platinum's special program on World Plastic Free Day

Prayagraj: Rotary Prayagraj Platinum Club organized an awareness campaign on the occasion of World Plastic Free Day. In this program, cloth bags were distributed near AG Office Vegetable Market by the servants of Prayagraj Mayor, Shri Umesh Chand Kesarwani ji and Sushil Kharbanda ji and other distinguished citizens. The aim of this initiative is to reduce the use of plastic and increase environmental awareness. Rotary Prayagraj Platinum Club has taken this step focusing on this important issue, so that the city resi-



dents are encouraged to protect the environment. Rotary Prayagraj Platinum Club President Rotarian Shashank Jain and Secretary Rotarian Sumit Aggarwal have appealed that all citizens should actively participate in this program and contribute towards a plastic-free society.

Special guest Civil Lines Trade Board President Sushil Kharbanda and General Secretary Shiv Shankar Singh and other members of the trade board were also present in this program. Thousands of cloth bags were distributed to vegetable and fruit vendors and general public buying vegetables and they were appealed to use cloth bags. Media in-charge Manish Garg said that on this occasion Rotarian Deepak Gupta, Dr. Nitin Sharma, Dr. Prateek Pandey, Sandeep Katyal, Hina Khan, former president Ritesh Singh, Apoorva, Sandeep Jain, Prameya Mittal, Pankaj Gupta, Ajay Sharma, Kalpana Gupta, Parul Aggarwal and other members were also present. Rotary members have pledged that they will not use plastic bags in their shops and homes.

Int'l Mahant Kinnar Akhara Maa Vaishnavi Nand Giri to be honoured With honorary doctorate degree

Prayagraj: Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Hindi Vidyapeeth, Vrindavan Dham, Mathura is famous for the promotion of Hindi language at the world level. Vidyapeeth has played an important role in bringing Indian culture to the world stage through Hindi language. Mahant Mata Vaishnavi Nand Giri of International Kinnar Akhara told that this time in the National Maa Vaishnavi Nand Hindi Seminar and Honor Ceremony to be held in Delhi on 24th July, she was honored with Vidhavachaspati (Honorary Doctorate Degree) for her remarkable contribution to the society and social service. Will be done. After this, Dr. name of Maa Vaishnavi Nand Giri. She is



wishes from many enlightened personalities of the society regarding this information. On this occasion, Vaishnavi Nand Giri said that after getting recognition, the power to work doubles and those who want to do good also get inspiration. I thank the entire Vidyapeeth team for this honour. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Hindi Vidyapeeth is one of the few institutions in the country which confers Vidyavachaspati (Honorary Doctorate Degree). Maa Vaishnavi Nand Giri is associated with various well-known government and non-government organizations of the country. She works for every section of the society. There is a wave of happiness in Kinnar Akhara regarding this and everyone is being wished well.

AG office staff made aware about traffic rules

Take injured to hospital, make video later

Prayagraj: The stop of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India was made aware about the rules of road safety by Prayagraj Traffic Inspector Pawan Kumar Pandey. Chief Guest Senior Deputy Accountant General Pooja Kumari honored

Bluetooth in their ears, which is very dangerous. And also gave answers to the traffic related questions of the members, also told about Good Samaritan or ten golden principles of traffic. You can keep the necessary documents safe in government certified apps (DG Lakar, M Parivahan) while driving, help the injured person immediately in any accident and become a Good Samaritan and also get a reward from the government. It was also told that the new law Indian Judicial Code 2023 has come into effect from 1st July 2024. All the respected people present in the auditorium were appealed to make their relatives also aware about traffic. In this workshop, a batch 100 employees participated. At the end of the program,



Pankaj Srivastava, Senior Audit Officer concluded with a vote of thanks. Social workers Railway Child Line, Nitish Shukla, Sandeep Shukla, Pradeep Dubey, Satendra Kumar, etc. were present in the workshop.

Paris-bound Rohan Bopanna and Sriram Balaji to compete in two ATP events

NEW DELHI (Agency): Sports ministry's Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) has approved tennis ace Rohan Bopanna's request for assistance for him and his men's doubles partner Sriram Balaji to compete in two ATP Tour events ahead of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Bopanna and Balaji will head to Hamburg and Umaag along with their coach and physiotherapist to compete in the ATP 500 events before they head to Paris.

MOC also approved requests of shooters Rhythm Sangwan, Sarabjot Singh, Vijayveer and Anish Bhanwala for assistance towards expenses of personal coaches or trainers during the Olympic training camp in Volmerange and the Paris Olympic Games 2024 in Chateauroux.

Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) will cover their cost of their flight, board and lodging, visa and local transport.

Skeet shooters Maheshwari Chauhan and Anantjeet Singh Naruka's requests for assistance to train with personal coaches Riccardo Fillipelli in Arrezzo, Italy, and Ennio Falco at the Tiro A Volo Falco range in Capua, Italy respectively

were also approved by MOC. During the meeting, MOC decided to extend assistance to steeplechasers Avinash Sable and Parul Chaudhary as well as their coach Scott Simmons to



training in St. Moritz, Switzerland, for 24 days before the Olympic Games.

The women's relay 4x400m team's request for assistance to procure equipment and table tennis player Harmeet Desai's request to support training in Biberach, Germany, and the purchase of various consumables as well fee for support staff were also approved by the MOC. The MOC inducted 400m sprinter Kiran Pahal, High Jumper Sarvesh Anil

Kushare and Shot Putter Abha Khatua in the TOPS Core group for the Paris Olympics Cycle.

Wrestlers Anshu Malik and Aman Sherawat will train in Japan and Russia re-

her technique.

Meanwhile, freestyle wrestler Aman Sherawat will head to Dagestan, Russia to train at the international camp that will have grapplers from many nations in-

while Mariyappan and Nishad Kumar will train with coach Jeremy Fischer at Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center, San Diego, USA.

During the meeting, MOC inducted rifle shooter Sandeep Singh and para athlete Preeti Pal in the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) Core group and promoted eight Olympic-bound athletes from Development to Core group. These are Sarabjot Singh, Arjun Singh Cheema, Rhythm Sangwan, Ramita, Anish and Esha Singh (Shooting) as well as Manu DP and Jyothi Yarraji (Athletics).

MOC also approved procurement of Game Ready equipment for archer Dhiraj Bommadevara, training equipment for racewalker Akshdeep Singh and financial support for coaching and support staff for Para Table Tennis player Bhavina Patel, Yoga Trainer, Psychologist/Mind Conditioning Coach and Assistant Coach for para shooters Manish, Rudransh, Rubina and Rahul and for physiotherapist for Para Badminton player Manasi Joshi during the 4 Nations Para Badminton International.

cluding Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan. He will travel with his sparring partner and physiotherapist to train in Dagestan for 30 days before leaving for Paris for the Olympic Games.

The MOC also approved overseas camps for Indian shooter Manu Bhaker and Para high-jumpers T Mariyappan and Nishad Kumar. Manu requested support to train with her personal coach at Luxembourg, Germany

As govt opens its coffers, it's time for Indian shooters to shine in Paris

NEW DELHI (Agency): India's medal tally at the Paris Olympics will largely depend on the performance of the country's shooters. Having secured an unprecedented 21 quota places across rifle, pistol and shotgun disciplines, Indian shooters now have time to bury the ghosts of 2016 Rio and 2020 Tokyo Olympics from where they returned empty-handed.

The country's sports administrators have done their bit by spending Rs 60.42 crore on the shooting squad during the three-year Paris Olympics cycle.

And now it's up to the shooters to nail down the targets at the Chateauroux Shooting Centre in France. The Indian shooters certainly look ready owing to their impressive performances during the qualification cycle for the Games. It'll be worthy to mention that this will be the largest-ever Indian shooting contingent to Olympics, surpassing the 15 who went to Tokyo Games.

As per the figures available with News channel, Rs 52.13 crore was spent on senior shooters during the Paris Olympics cycle as part of the Annual Competition and Training Calendar (ACTC). From the Target

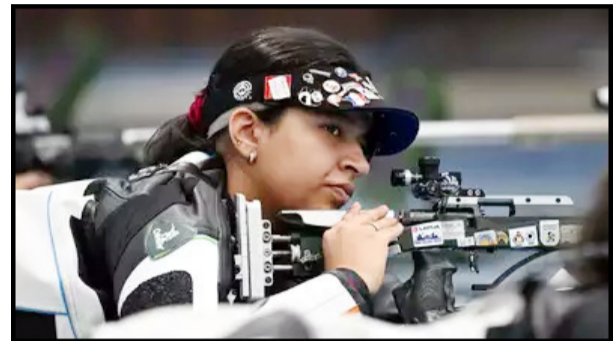
Olympics Podium Scheme (TOPS), a separate Rs 8.08 crore was sanctioned to Paris-bound shooters for various proposals submitted. The amount received as part of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), which was spent on shooters, stood at Rs 19.54 crore.

In addition to that, Rs 23.24 crore was spent on funding the foreign exposure trips of shooters as part

of the ACTC. Shooters went on a total of 45 exposure trips abroad during this Olympics cycle. Also, a total of 45 national and international camps were organised for them, over 480 days, and the expenditure incurred was Rs 11.56 crore.

For rifle and pistol teams, the camps were organised in Chateauroux and Volmerange-les-Mines in France and ammunition was tested in Austria and Germany. Shotgun teams had camps in Lonato, Capua and Carney. In India, the shooters trained in Delhi and Bhopal.

Over the last three years, the shooters were assisted by a total of 13 foreign coaches – six in 2022, four in 2023 and three in 2024. Additionally, a centralised sports science team with sports psychologists, data scientist and nutritionist under a high performance director (HPD)



worked round-the-clock with shooters. India will field eight shooters in rifle events, seven in pistol and six in shotgun events. The country will also have five mixed teams – two each in rifle and pistol and one in the shotgun skeet. Shooting events in Paris will run from July 27 to Aug 5. The remarkable high experienced by the country's shooters at the Hangzhou Asian Games has provided reason to feel confident about their chances in Paris.

Gold in Paris will be tribute to India and senior hockey players, says skipper Harmanpreet Singh

NEW DELHI (Agency): Indian men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh is determined to secure the gold medal at the forthcoming Paris Olympics. His ambition is to pay homage to the nation and the legends of the sport.

India, having won eight Olympic gold medals in the past, ended a 41-year drought by clinching a bronze at the Tokyo Olympics, reigniting the glory days of hockey in the country. As the 2024 Paris Olympics approach, Harmanpreet and his team are focused on nothing less than bringing home the gold medal.

"We are giving our all to elevate our history and legacy. Winning the gold will be a tribute to India and our seniors," the ace drag-flicker said, as quoted by News Agency, in an exclusive feature on JioCinema's 'The Dreamers.'

Manpreet Singh, who captained the Indian team to a historic bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics, expressed views that aligned with Harmanpreet's perspective. "Seeing our flag on the right, I felt we could

strive harder to place it at the centre next time, with our anthem playing. This marks the beginning of our renewed journey," he said.

PR Sreejesh, the experienced goalkeeper of the Indian team, emphasized the unwavering determination and united mentality of his teammates.

"Someone somewhere is training to beat you. That thought pushes me out of



my comfort zone. Every time I train, I am driven by the desire not to disappoint the 1.4 billion people of our country.

"There was a time when Indian hockey relied on individual brilliance, but now we play as a cohesive unit, and that transformation has been key to our success on

the international stage," Sreejesh said.

Craig Fulton, India's chief coach, dissected the team's approach, mindset, and tactics that enable them to compete on equal footing with the world's top teams.

"There isn't a team that this Indian team hasn't beaten. The question you could also be asking is -- what do the other teams

have to do to beat India?" "The whole philosophy in my mind is to defend, to counter, and to win - having a team that can defend against the best teams in the world but then counter-attack from anywhere. And that's in the DNA of this Indian team," the South African said.

Sumit Nagal bows out in first round of Wimbledon men's doubles

NEW DELHI (Agency): India's Sumit Nagal exited Wimbledon on Wednesday after losing in straight sets in the first round of the men's doubles event with his Serbian partner Dusan Lajovic. The duo was defeated 2-6, 2-6 by the Spanish pair Jaume Munar and Pedro Martinez in a match that lasted one hour and seven minutes. Nagal, India's top-ranked player, had previously been defeated in the opening round of the men's singles event on Monday.

He lost to Serbia's Miomir Kecmanovic 2-6, 6-3, 3-6, 4-6 in a match that spanned 2 hours and 48 minutes. Nagal, a former boys doubles Wimbledon champion, put up a brave fight before going down in the opening round. Later in the day, India's Rohan Bopanna and Australian Matthew Ebden, who are seeded second, will face off against the Dutch combination of Sander Arends and Robin Haase.

We've managed to become a team that'll live forever in memory of people: Ben Stokes

NEW DELHI (Agency): England's daring 'Bazball' strategy in Test cricket was unsuccessful in securing victory against their long-standing foe Australia in the 2023 home Ashes series. However, skipper Ben Stokes encouraged his team to strive for a higher purpose -- to become the side that will forever be etched in people's memories.

The England and Wales Cricket Board recently released a three-part documentary series titled 'Ashes 2023 | Our Take,' which sheds light on Stokes' thought process during pivotal moments of the closely contested 2023 Ashes.

Following the drawn fourth Test in Manchester last July, which was marred by rain and resulted in Australia retaining the urn, Stokes delivered an impassioned speech to his crestfallen teammates.

"Everything we've done up until now isn't going to stop because we

haven't managed to win the urn back. The reward for our work isn't what we get but what we become," said Stokes who, with head coach Brendon McCullum, has pioneered the 'Bazball' philosophy. "And what we have



managed to do is we've managed to become a sports team that will live forever in the memory of people who were lucky enough to witness us play cricket," said Stokes, according to cricket.com.au.

"I know it's going to be a bit flat, it's going to

hurt that we go into the next game (at The Oval) not being able to get the urn back. But what we have done is something a lot bigger than any Ashes trophy could ever signify for this team -- be the team that everybody will

one. "Any decision I make will never be based on 'well, we're definitely not going to lose if we make this one, so I'll go with it,'" Stokes said, as quoted by News Agency, in the documentary. "It will always be about what's going to give us the best opportunity to win a game."

Stokes' predecessor Joe Root expressed a more balanced perspective regarding the national cricket team. Root's assessment of England's performance and potential differed from Stokes' view. "I don't think anyone thinks we're something we're not. We're not trying to say that we're the best team in the world," Root said in the final episode of the documentary.

"One of the sayings that comes out of the dressing room ... is teams might be better than us, but they won't be braver than us. "And it's a great way to play the game," said Root.

We have to be more consistent: Chloe Tryon ahead of T20Is against India

NEW DELHI (Agency): Chloe Tryon, the South African all-rounder, acknowledged on Wednesday that her team must perform consistently to boost their morale for the upcoming Women's T20 World Cup, which will be held in Bangladesh later this year. She emphasized the importance of making the right choices at crucial moments.

Currently, the South African team is on a tour of India, where they have suffered defeats in the three ODIs and the solitary Test match.

With the three-match T20 International series commencing on Friday, serving as their final competitive preparation before the global tournament,

Tryon believes that making the right decisions at the right time will be vital.

"We have played a lot of good cricket in patches, but to narrow it down, we have to be more consistent. We have to do well in all aspects of the game and ensure that we do the right things in the right stages," she told reporters, as quoted by News Agency, during an interaction in Chennai on Wednesday.

"If we get those (decisions) right, it will give us a lot of confidence going into the World Cup."

The 30-year-old commended her team's batting lineup for their outstanding determination and grit throughout the singular Test match. She expressed

admiration for their ability to prolong the game and take it down to the wire.



"It was really good to watch, especially the character they showed. The Test

match wasn't easy after Day 1. But, if you look at how they went into Day 3 and

Day 4, it was fantastic to watch," she reckoned. "Every batter was deter-

mined to try and take it as far as they could. Some of them hit some milestones,

WPL has been great"

Tryon, who suffered an injury during the previous Women's Big Bash League season, has made a comeback and participated in five T20 International matches. Despite her statistics not being particularly impressive, she remains optimistic about her future prospects.

Her involvement in the Women's Premier League this year, specifically with the Mumbai Indians team, has provided her with valuable experience that she believes will significantly benefit her in the coming days.

"It's been a great experience to work with world-

class coaches (in the WPL). I used to play Jhulan Goswami when I was younger, so to have her as a (bowling) coach is fantastic. She has given me a lot of pointers and helped my game with small techniques that I could be doing," she continued.

"Being a part of the WPL has been great. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to play a game. But, looking at the team and having world-class all-rounders, it's completely understandable."

Tryon, an experienced player in the team, was questioned about her specific responsibilities within the squad.

She acknowledged her aim to have extended bat-

ting stints. Additionally, she expressed her belief that one of her duties would be to provide guidance and support to the younger members of the team.

"We are still having those discussions (about my role), but I wish to bat as long as I'm out there and take the game deeper. In the last couple of months, I have learnt that the longer I can bat, the more time we have to put up a big score."

"Also with the ball, I am happy that I have been a lot more consistent recently."

"There are a lot of youngsters coming in. Hopefully, I can give them as much information I can so that they can learn as much as they can," she signed off.

Saeed Jalili, a hard-line former negotiator known as a 'true believer,' seeks Iran's presidency

Dubai (Agency): Hard-line Iranian presidential candidate Saeed Jalili may have been Tehran's top nuclear negotiator for years, but he won no plaudits from Western diplomats sitting across the table as he repeatedly lectured them on everything while offering nothing. "As the weaving of Iranian carpets progresses in millimetre, precise, delicate and durable manner, God willing, this diplomatic process will also proceed in the same way," Jalili said then.

Those hours of lecturing in 2008 stalled talks as hard-line President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei advanced the country's nuclear programme. That put pressure on the West that eventually eased with Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, which lifted sanctions on the Islamic Republic.

Now Jalili, 58, stands on the precipice of being elected as Iran's next president as he faces a runoff election on Friday against the little-known reformist Masoud Pezeshkian, a heart surgeon. With Iran's nuclear programme enriching uranium at levels near-weapons grade, a win by Jalili may again see already-

stalled negotiations freeze. Meanwhile, Jalili's own hard-line vision for Iran - derided by opponents as being in the style of the Taliban - potentially risks inflaming a public still angry after the bloody security force crackdown that followed the demonstrations over the 2022 death of Mahsa Amini. She died in police custody after she was detained over allegedly improperly wearing the mandatory headscarf, or hijab.

Jalili, known for his shock of white hair and beard, is known as the 'Living Martyr' after losing his right leg in combat at the age of 21 during the 1980s Iran-Iraq war. He was born on September 6, 1965, in the Shiite holy city of Mashhad. His Kurdish father was a French teacher and a school principal and his mother an Azeri.

Jalili worked as a university professor with a doctorate before joining Iran's Foreign Ministry, working his way up to a top position before joining Iran's Supreme National Security Council and becoming the country's top nuclear negotiator under Ahmadinejad from 2007 to 2013. He made an impression immediately on his Western counter-

parts, with then-negotiator, now-CIA director William Burns calling him "a true believer in the Iranian Revolution".

"He could be stupefyingly opaque when he wanted to avoid straight answers, and this was certainly one of those occasions," Burns recalled in one meeting. "He mentioned at one point that he



still lectured part-time at Tehran University. I did not envy his students."

An anonymous French diplomat quoted at the time referred to one round of Jalili's negotiations as a "disaster". Another European Union diplomat offered a similar assessment in a 2008 US diplomatic cable published by WikiLeaks.

"An EU official who attended Jalili's private and public meetings that day was struck by his seeming

inability or unwillingness to deviate from the same presentation or provide nuance, calling him a true product of the Iranian Revolution," the cable said, not naming the diplomat.

Jalili later would be recalled after he came in a distant third in Iran's 2013 presidential election to the relatively moderate cleric Hassan Rouhani, himself a

run by the late hard-line Ayatollah Mohammad Taghi Mesbah Yazdi, who once wrote that Iran should not deprive itself of the right to produce "special weapons" - a veiled reference to nuclear weapons. Iran long has insisted its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes.

However, UN inspectors and Western nations say Iran had an organised military nuclear programme until 2003. In recent months, Iranian officials have increasingly made threats about Iran's ability to build a bomb if it wanted as it enriches uranium to 60 per cent purity, a short, technical step to weapons-grade levels of 90 per cent. Meanwhile, advocates for Pezeshkian have described Jalili as potentially bringing hard-line policies akin to the Taliban if he's elected, something Jalili acknowledged in passing.

"Before the election results were even announced, we called 10 million or 9 million people Taliban?" Jalili said at a recent debate, referring to reformists' criticism of his policies. "Does this help?"

Jalili hasn't offered any real comment on how he'd handle the ongoing dispute over the hijab in Iranian so-

ciety. But those in Jalili's campaign have been much more direct - calling for stricter punishment against those refusing to wear the mandatory headscarf. One once referred to uncovered women as being worse than a "whore".

Yet during his campaign, Jalili has been vague about how he'd enforce the law and has even posed for a selfie with a woman with a loose hijab, a moment captured in a news photo. Jalili also has been endorsed by another fundamentalist ayatollah, Mohammad Mehdi Mirbagheri, who belongs to the Front of Islamic Revolution Stability, the far-right edge of hard-liners in the nation. The group, which backs Jalili, was behind a bill passed by Iran's parliament that could impose 10-year prison sentences for hijab violations. It has yet to be approved by the country's Guardian Council, a panel of clerics and jurists ultimately overseen by Khamenei.

"They want blocking and closures in everything, no matter the field," political analyst Mehrdad Khadir told The Associated Press. "It's the same when it comes to the issue of women, internet or any other issue."

Curtains down for Koo; founders say little yellow bird bids final goodbye

New Delhi (Agency): Social media platform Koo, which had pitched itself as a rival and viable alternate to Twitter (now X), is shutting down with co-founders on Wednesday penning a heartfelt note about tough decisions and little yellow bird bidding "final goodbye".

In a post on LinkedIn, co-founders Aprameya Radhakrishna and Mayank Bidawatka announced that the platform will be discontinuing its services to the public, as talks for a partnership with multiple larger internet companies, conglomerates and media houses



did not yield the desired outcomes. "We explored partnership with multiple larger internet companies, conglomerates and media houses but these talks didn't yield the outcome we wanted," the note said.

The duo said that although they would have liked to keep the app running, "the cost of technology services to keep social media app running is high and we've had to take this tough decision".

Koo at its peak grossed about 2.1 million daily active users, about 10 million monthly active users, and over 9,000 VIPs that included some of the most prominent personalities from various fields.

"We were just months away from beating Twitter in India in 2022 and could have doubled down on that short term goal with capital behind us," they said.

A funding winter, however hit the company at its peak, hurting plans and forcing the platform to "tone down" its growth trajectory.

"Unfortunately for us, the mood of the market and the funding winter got better of us," the note mentioned as the founders signed off saying, "the little yellow bird says its final goodbye" in a reference to Koo's yellow bird logo. It may be recalled that Koo's popularity in India peaked around 2021 amid the Indian government's spat with Twitter (now X) and growing calls for expanding the ecosystem of homegrown digital platforms. At its peak, Koo experienced heady growth in user metrics as union ministers and government departments at that time endorsed the homegrown microblogging platform.

President Joe Biden faces doubts from Democrats about his 2024 re-election

Washington (Agency): Some elected Democrats loyal to President Joe Biden raised fresh questions on Tuesday about his 2024 re-election bid, with one calling for him to step aside, a shift after many defended him in the wake of last week's shaky debate performance. Whether Biden continues his 2024 bid for president after his halting debate performance against Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump is largely his decision, Democrats and political strategists have said. But Biden is facing pressure. Some donors have called for him to step aside, and other Democrats are worrying openly that he is not equipped to beat Trump in November.

There are 25 Democratic members of the House of Representatives preparing to call for Biden to step aside, according to one House Democratic aide. A second House Democratic aide said moderate House Democrats in competitive districts - often called "frontliners" - were considering writing a letter to Biden about their concerns after getting hammered with questions in their districts this week. "It looks like the dam has broken," the source said.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll taken after the debate showed one in three Democrats think Biden should end his re-election bid. US Representative Lloyd Doggett became the first congressional Democrat to call for Biden to withdraw from the presidential race on Tuesday. He told NBC News in an interview that he hoped other Democratic lawmakers would follow his lead.

Vice President Kamala Harris, asked in a CBS News interview about her response, said: "Look, Joe Biden is our nominee. We beat Trump once and we're gonna beat him. Period." Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi emphasized Biden's multiple legislative accomplishments during an interview with MSNBC but said it was legitimate to ask whether his debate performance was a one-night thing or a broader health problem. She said Trump should be given the same scrutiny. "I think it's a legitimate question to say, 'Is this an episode or is this a condition?' And so when people ask that question, it's legitimate, of both candidates," Pelosi said.

Mumbai terror accused Tahawwur Rana extraditable to India under provisions of treaty: US attorney

Washington (Agency): Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman Tahawwur Rana, who is sought in India for his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack, is extraditable under the plain provisions of the US-India extradition treaty, a US attorney has told a federal court.

Assistant US Attorney, Criminal Appeals Chief Bram Alden was making a closing argument before the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, where Rana has appealed against the order by a US District Court in California that denied the writ of habeas corpus. In May, Rana, 63, had filed a writ of habeas corpus challenging the court order, which acceded with the request of the US government that the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks accused be extradited to India.

"Rana is extraditable to India under the plain provisions of the treaty, and India has established probable cause to prosecute him for his role in terrorist attacks that resulted in 166 deaths and 239 injuries," Alden said.

In his deposition before the court on June 5, Alden, who left the position last

week, said both India and the United States have agreed on the meaning of the treaty provision, the non-bis provision in Article 6-1. "Both parties have now stated what they intended, that that provision be interpreted based on the elements of the offence and not based on the conduct underlying those crimes. That is consistent with long-standing Supreme Court double jeopardy pre-



cedent," he argued.

Rana, currently lodged in a jail in Los Angeles, faces charges for his role in the Mumbai attacks and is known to be associated with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, one of the main conspirators of the 26/11 Mumbai attacks.

Rana has never even attempted to argue that he cannot show that the same elements India seeks to

prosecute him for were those he was prosecuted for in Chicago, Alden said.

Representing Rana, attorney John D Cline said there's no competent evidence supporting probable cause. Alden said the evidence is overwhelming to support probable cause, that low standard that Rana knew about what was going to happen in India between 2006 and 2008.

"He met with (David) Headley multiple times. There is documentary evidence that supports Headley's testimony, including the fake visa applications that were provided so that Headley could operate a fraudulent business in India in order to conduct surveillance, in order to carry out those terrorist attacks," he said. "There was a phone call, of course, after the fact where Rana said that he was informed about what was going on by one of their co-conspirators in Pakistan. And his praise for what was carried out in a gruesome terrorist attack that killed 166 people, injured 239 more, and cost India USD 1.5 billion," Alden said.

"It was primarily at the Taj Mahal Hotel, but the terrorists attacked a number of bars, restaurants, and the Chabad House. There were other targets in India that they were attacking in Mumbai. And it was their 9/11," he said.

"It was a devastating attack over the course of multiple days that resulted in 166 deaths, including six Americans," he added. "That is why India wants to prosecute this case and, under the extradition treaty, has every right to do so," Alden argued.

"The extent he wants to raise humanitarian concerns or even concerns about the process, the acquittal, the fact that he is facing extradition, those all get raised and can be raised to the Secretary of State," he said in response to a question from the judge.

Representing Rana, Cline, in his deposition, said the central question here is whether the "known bis in idem provision" in the US-India extradition treaty, the double jeopardy provision, permits the extradition of a man who was acquitted by an American jury for prosecution in a foreign country on that same conduct.

Sensex hits historic 80,000-mark, Nifty ends at record high as banking shares advance

Mumbai (Agency): Benchmark BSE Sensex breached the historic 80,000 level intraday for the first time while Nifty raced more than 162 points to a fresh lifetime high on Wednesday following heavy buying in banking and FMCG shares amid firm global market trends. The 30-share Sensex hit the historic 80,000 mark for the first time earlier in the day. It surged 632.85 points or 0.79 per cent to hit a record intraday high of 80,074.30. The index later closed near the 80,000 level at 79,986.80, up by 545.35 points or 0.69 per cent over the last close.

The BSE Sensex breached the 78,000 level on June 25 and 79,000 for the first time on June 27.

The Nifty climbed 162.65 points or 0.67 per cent to an all-time high of 24,286.50. During the day, it zoomed 183.4 points or 0.76 per cent to hit a fresh intraday record peak of 24,307.25. Among the Sensex pack, Adani Ports, Kotak Mahindra Bank,

HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, IndusInd Bank, State Bank of India, Power Grid, JSW Steel, Bajaj Finance and Tata Steel were the biggest gainers. Tata Consultancy Services, Titan, Reliance Industries, Tata Motors and Larsen & Toubro were the laggards. In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo and Hong Kong settled in the positive territory while Shanghai ended lower. European markets were trading with gains. US markets ended higher on Tuesday. The BSE benchmark declined 34.74 points or 0.04 per cent to settle at 79,441.45 in a volatile trade on Tuesday.

Italian employer arrested for Punjabi farm labourer Satnam Singh's death

Rome (Agency): The Italian police have arrested the owner of the agriculture company who dumped a 31-year-old Indian worker on the road without medical assistance after his arm was severed by heavy farm machinery, causing his death, a tragic incident that shocked the country and its leadership.

Satnam Singh was abandoned by his employer after a strawberry wrapping machine severed his arm in Lazio, near Rome, last month and died due to "copious bleeding", the ANSA news agency reported.

The Sikh casual farm labourer from Punjab died

at a hospital in Rome two days later after being airlifted there when he was eventually found.

Police on Tuesday arrested the alleged gangmaster, Antonello Lovato, on suspicion of causing Singh's manslaughter death, the report said. Prosecutors said in a statement that the Sikh farmer, who died of a massive haemorrhage in a Rome hospital, "would in all likelihood have been saved if he had been promptly assisted".

"We were waiting for this news, we were angry," the president of the Lazio Indian community, Gurmukh

Singh, said. "The worst thing (Lovato) did was to leave him outside his home instead of taking him to hospital," he was quoted as saying.

"An accident can happen, but not calling for medical assistance is unacceptable," he said. Singh's death has spurred outrage at gangmastering, which is widespread in Italy, especially in the south of the country, and modern forms of slavery.

According to an earlier report, Lovato loaded Singh and his wife into a van and left them by the side of the road near their home. Singh's severed arm was

placed in a fruit crate.

Meanwhile, Singh's widow Soni, who was treated for shock after the incident, received a special



'justice' stay permit to end her illegal status in Italy, it said.

On June 26, India asked

Italy to take prompt action against those responsible for Singh's death. Muktesh Pardeshi, Secretary [CPV & OIA], conveyed to Luigi Maria Vignali, the Director General for Italian Citizens Abroad and Migration Policies, India's "deep concern" about the death of Singh, the Indian Embassy in Italy said in a post on X. He "called for prompt action against those responsible. Embassy is in contact with the family of Satnam Singh for consular help & transportation of mortal remains," the mission added.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni said last month that Singh, one of

thousands of Indian immigrants who work the fields in the country, was the victim of "inhuman acts".

"These are inhumane acts that do not belong to the Italian people. I hope that this barbarity will be punished harshly," she said following a Cabinet meeting.

Italy's Minister of Labour, Marina Calderone, said the death of Singh had been an "act of barbarity". Opposition 5-Star Movement (M5S) leader Giuseppe Conte had urged Meloni to act to stamp out brutal gangmastering.

"You lose your arm while you're working in the

fields for four euros an hour. You're not immediately treated. They put you in a van, and they dump you like rubbish outside your home," Conte wrote on X.

"Beside you, a strawberry basket in which your severed arm is left. You bleed out and die. It sounds like the story of a slave centuries ago. We can't close our eyes, we can't think about making profits while cancelling the dignity of work and the last shreds of humanity," he wrote. "We are ready to do our bit in parliament against these barbarities, which must be rooted out of the fields all over Italy, he added.

UJALA SHIKHAR
News Of The Depths
Published & Printed by
Alok Malviya,
Printed at Pratahkal
printing press 79A-Motilal
Nehru Road Prayagraj
Uttar Pradesh 211002
&
Published from 1802/
1040/29 Satti Chaura,
Malviya Nagar Prayagraj
Uttar Pradesh 211003.

Editor
Alok Malviya
Mob-9335153330
Co-editor-Piyush Pandey,
Yamunapur bureau chief-
Vineet Sethi,
Karchhana in-charge-
Abhay Singh,
Jabalpur bureau chief-
Uma Shankar Mishra
Email-
alokallahabad
@gmail.com
All dispute of news and
publication by UJALA
SHIKHAR are subject
matter of Prayagraj Court
jurisdiction only