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Crucial READ

Working with Belgium to extradite Mehul Choksi: MEA

New Delhi (Agency): The Union government Thursday said it is closely working with Belgium for the extradition of fugitive jeweller Mehul Choksi so that he can face trial in India for the ₹13,000-crore Punjab National Bank (PNB) loan fraud. India and Belgium have a longstanding extradition treaty. The Belgian government confirmed on Monday that 65-year-old Choksi, who fled India in January 2018, was arrested in Antwerp on Saturday following an extradition request by Indian investigation agencies.

14 arrests in 3 states for 'IPL betting on Mahadev platform'

Raipur (Agency): Amid a CBI investigation into the Mahadev betting platform, the Raipur police have arrested 14 bookies over three days across three states - Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Assam - for taking bets on the Indian Premier League (IPL) via the platform.

The 14 were running three "panels" of the Mahadev betting platform named L95 Lotus, Lotus 651 and LOTUS 656. According to police, a panel is an online portal through which bets can be placed.

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra will happen this year: India

New Delhi (Agency): India on Thursday said there is a possibility of resumption of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra soon and a public notice could be issued over it. India and China have been looking at resuming the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra as part of efforts to improve ties after the two countries completed disengagement of troops at the two remaining friction points of Demchok and Depsang under the framework of a pact sealed in October last year. "We will soon issue a public notice on the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and there is a possibility of resumption of the Yatra soon," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

Two-day national workshop on 'Forest Conservation and Climate-Resilient Livelihood' will begin in the presence of Chief Minister Dr. Yadav and Union Forest and Environment Minister Shri Yadav



- There will be brainstorming on the role of forests in the goal of Developed India @ 2047
- Documentary films based on tribal life and nature will be screened

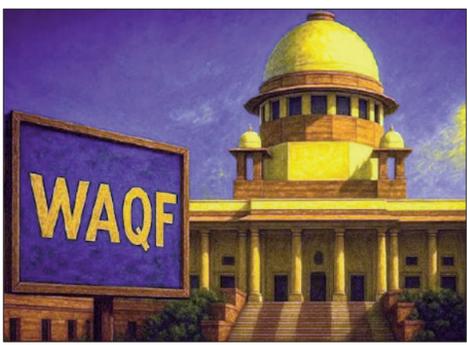
Bhopal (Agency): Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav and Union Forest-Environment and Climate Change Minister Shri Bhupendra Yadav will inaugurate a two-day national workshop on Friday on important topics like forest restoration, climate change and community-based livelihood in the tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh. In the workshop to be held at Naronha Administration Academy, Bhopal, there will be brainstorming on the role of forests in the goals of

Developed India @ 2047. Tribal Affairs Minister of the state Dr. Kunwar Vijay Shah will give the welcome address in the workshop. Dr. Rahul Mungikar will present the outline of the two-day national workshop. On this occasion, an audio-visual presentation will also be given focusing on tribal community and natural conservation. Key topics: Forest conservation, traditional knowledge and community management. In various sessions of the

national workshop, there will be detailed discussions on issues such as current legal arrangements for forest conservation, their limitations and solutions, Biodiversity Amendment Act-2023, community forest rights, documentation of traditional knowledge and forest restoration. Prof. Ramesh, who is coming from Bangalore, will also give an expert statement. Dr. Yogesh Gokhale, Dr. Rajendra Dahatonde and other speakers will address various sessions in the workshop.

Governor Patel will address the closing session on the second day of the national workshop

Governor Mangubhai Patel will be the chief guest at the closing session of the National Workshop. Former National Tribal Commission Chairman Harsh Chauhan will give the closing statement. Documentary films focusing on afforestation, climate sensitivity and inclusive participation of forest dwelling communities will also be screened in the workshop. The role of forests is very important in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Developed India @ 2047. This workshop is an important step towards sustainable and equitable development by keeping forests, biodiversity, natural resources and tribal livelihood at the center.



Supreme Court grants Centre week to reply on Waqf Act validity, says no changes to 'waqf by user' till next hearing

New Delhi (Agency): The Supreme Court on Thursday granted the Centre a week's time to file a response to the petitions challenging constitutional validity of Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. The Supreme Court noted assurance of the Centre that till next date of hearing, wakf, including 'waqf by user', which is declared by notification or registered, will neither be denotified nor its character changed. Further, the Centre gave a statement that no appointments will be made to the Waqf Council or Waqf boards. A three-judge bench of Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna and Justices PV Sanjay Kumar and KV

Viswanathan resume hearing the case at 2pm on Thursday. The top court fixed the next date of hearing in the week commencing May 5 by when the responses of Centre, states and petitioners opposing the Act will be filed. The court directed five petitions to be selected as lead petitions that will be decided by the petitioners. The Supreme Court segregated the cases filed by Hindu parties challenging the earlier Waqf laws of 1995 and 2013. It also directed that all the five petitions challenging the 2025 Act will be listed under a common heading "In Re: Waqf Amendment Act 2025".

Dawoodi Bohra Delegation Meets PM Modi, Welcomes Waqf Amendment Act



New Delhi (Agency): A delegation from the Dawoodi Bohra community met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday to express their gratitude for the recently enacted Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, calling it a long-pending demand of the community. They said that it was a long-pending demand of the community. They reposed faith in PM's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas'.

The Dawoodi Bohras are a Muslim community primarily from West India, with members settled in over 40 countries worldwide. The Dawoodi Bohra community traces its heritage to the Fatimid Imams, direct descendants of the Prophet Muhammad, in Egypt. The Dawoodi Bohras throughout the world are guided by their leader known as the al-dai al-mutlaq (unrestricted missionary), who first operated from Yemen and then, for the last 450 years, from India.

India slams Pak Army Chief's remark on Kashmir

Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "How can anything foreign be in a jugular vein? This is a Union Territory of India. Its only relationship with Pakistan is the vacation of illegally occupied territories by that country."



New Delhi (Agency): A day after Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir called Kashmir Islamabad's "jugular vein", India hit back on Thursday saying that Kashmir is a Union Territory of India and its only relationship with Pakistan is the vacation of illegally occupied territories by that

country. Responding to questions, Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "How can anything foreign be in a jugular vein? This is a Union Territory of India. Its only relationship with Pakistan is the vacation of illegally occupied territories by that country." In an address at the Overseas Pakistani Convention in Islamabad Wednesday, General Munir said, "Our stance is

absolutely clear, it was our jugular vein, it will be our jugular vein, we will not forget it. We will not leave our Kashmiri brothers in their heroic struggle." "We (India and Pakistan) are not one nation. That is why our forefathers struggled to create this country. Our forefathers and we have sacrificed a lot for the creation of this country. We know how to defend it," General Munir had said. "... don't forget this story of

SSC's New Step Toward Transparent Exams, Aadhaar-Based Authentication to Begin

New Delhi (Agency): The Staff Selection Commission (SSC) has taken an important step to make its examination process more transparent and secure. Starting from May 2025, candidates appearing for SSC exams will have the option to use Aadhaar-based biometric authentication. This move is expected to bring more reliability to the registration and examination process. The Staff Service Commission announced that Aadhaar authentication will be available at different stages. Candidates can choose to use their Aadhaar while registering online for exams, while filling out the application form and also at the examination centers while appearing for the tests. This new feature is aimed at making the process smoother and more trustworthy.

The SSC has clearly stated that using Aadhaar-based authentication is completely voluntary. It is not mandatory for candidates to use Aadhaar but the option is being introduced to make the process easier and faster. The biometric authentication will help confirm the identity of candidates and reduce chances of impersonation or fraud. This step is part of the Commission's larger goal of improving the overall examination system. With the help of Aadhaar, SSC aims to offer a fair and transparent environment to all applicants in the upcoming examinations. Candidates who are planning to appear for SSC exams from May 2025 onwards will be able to use this new Aadhaar based system.

Big relief for 'untainted' Bengal teachers as top court allows them to continue

New Delhi (Agency): The Supreme Court on Thursday said that 'untainted' assistant teachers who lost their jobs after the top court's order can continue to teach. The court said the decision was made in the interest of the students. The court also directed the West Bengal government to start a fresh recruitment drive by May 31 and complete the process by December 31. "We are inclined to accept the prayer in the present application as it relates to the assistant teachers of Classes IX-X and Classes XI-XII," a bench of Chief Justice of India

(CJ) Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar said. The order will apply only to



assistant teachers, as the bench noted that in the Group C and D recruitments, large-

scale bungling was found. On April 3, the Supreme Court had invalidated the

appointments of over 25,000 teaching and non-teaching staff in state-sponsored and

aided schools after finding large-scale irregularities in the 2016 recruitment by the School Service Commission. A bench led by Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar had concluded that the recruitment process in question was fundamentally flawed. In its judgment, the court had stated that manipulations in the recruitment process had compromised the integrity of the appointments to such an extent that they could not be sustained. The justices emphasised that the entire selection process was vitiated

and tainted, making the appointments invalid. Many of those who lost their jobs claimed that the reason behind their plight was the inability of the School Service Commission, which appointed them, to differentiate between the candidates who secured employment through fraudulent means and those who did not. The "deserving" teachers have been agitating in the state, demanding that the West Bengal government and the SSC find a mechanism so that they could be back in service.

CAPEF, CRPF to play key role in wiping out Naxalism from country by March 2026: Amit Shah

Neeamuch (Agency): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said Naxalism will be eliminated from the country by March 31, 2026 and the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and the CRPF will play a major role in it. He was addressing the Central Reserve Police Force's (CRPF) 86th Raising Day function in Madhya Pradesh's Neeamuch district. "The menace of Naxalism will end in the country by March 31, 2026, as stated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the CAPF and



CRPF, especially its CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action) unit, will play a major role in it," Shah said. Earlier, Shah inspected the CRPF Raising Day parade here.

Workshop on protection from cyber crime in the digital age



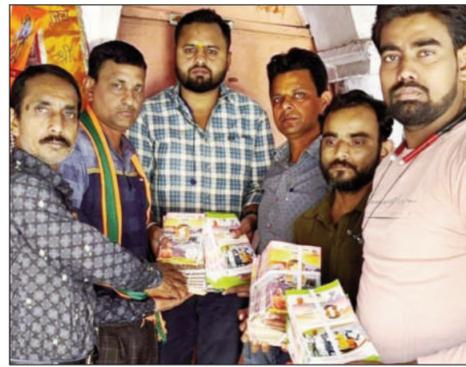
Staff Reporter
Prayagraj: An awareness workshop on protection from cyber crime in the digital age was organized in the multipurpose auditorium by the student welfare cell of Professor Rajendra Singh Rajju Bhैया University. The workshop was inaugurated with Vedic Mangalacharan by Sanskrit department students Sandeep Dubey and Adityaraj Giri. The Vice Chancellor of the University, Dr. Akhilesh Kumar Singh, in his presidential address said that we can avoid cyber fraud by checking the authenticity of digital information. Self vigilance and awareness is the only protection against

cyber fraud. Coordinator Prof. Ashutosh Kumar Singh said in his welcome speech that along with the use of technology, controlling one's mind can reduce cyber fraud. Through PPT, constables Anmol and Pooja made teachers, officers and students aware of many precautions of cyber security. They told that never get the customer care number from Google. If any OTP comes, read it carefully, do not tell it. One should avoid the temptations received in the name of government schemes. Money is never demanded in the original job letter, hence one should avoid money transactions in the name of fake job letters.

Chief Registrar Prof. Rajkumar Gupta said that cyber crime has many forms and it is important to identify them. Sub-inspector Prayagraj Mr. Vinod and Mr. Ghanshyam told many security measures. Controller of Examinations Dr. Vinita Yadav, Finance Officer Mr. Shashi Bhushan Singh Tomar also addressed. Convener Dr. Utkarsh Upadhyay introduced the topic and Dr. Garima Singh conducted it. Dr. Pradeep Tripathi thanked everyone. On this occasion, the presence of teachers, administrative officers and students of the university was noteworthy. The program concluded after the national anthem.

Spread Baba Saheb's idea of social harmony to masses: Mayor

Staff Reporter
Prayagraj: Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani was given the responsibility of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Jayanti Samman Abhiyan District Seminar to be held on April 19 by BJP Mahanagar, for which he held a meeting with the senior members of the party in Pajawa Ramlila Committee premises and made a plan to make the program successful. On this occasion, he said that we have to convey Baba Saheb's idea of social harmony within the society to the people and tell them about the work being done by the government. Giri Shankar



Prabhakar, Rajesh Kesarwani, Girjesh Mishra, Pramod Jaiswal, Manoj Mishra, Amar Singh, Anchal Malviya, Vishnu Tripathi, Rajesh Pathak, Councilor Mukesh Kaseria, Councilor Rudra Sen Jaiswal, Neeraj Gupta etc were present in the meeting.

Water supply stopped due to faulty switch valve, responsible silent

Staff Reporter
Pratapgarh, Kunda. Due to faulty switch valve of water tank, drinking water supply has been completely stopped for three days. Due to which people are yearning for drinking water. People are angry due to water shortage in summer. New pipeline has been laid in Sangramgarh market under Jaljeevan Mission. Due to laying of pipes, drinking water supply was stopped for many days. Drinking water supply started a few days ago but three days ago the switch valve of the tank got damaged due to which people of the entire area are yearning for water. It is said that water is supplied to a population of seven thousand from this



water tank. Families of rural areas including the market are upset due to non-availability of water for three days. Villagers have complained to the operator to restore the supply of drinking water. Operator Atul Kumar Pandey says that water supply is not being done due to faulty switch valve. Switch valve parts have been ordered, supply will be restored soon.

BRIEFS

Angry villagers blocked the highway for three hours over the arrest of the car driver



Staff Reporter
Pratapgarh, Lalganj. On the death of the husband and wife in the accident, the family and villagers created a ruckus over the non-arrest of the car driver and the post-mortem report. The angry family along with the villagers blocked the highway by placing the bodies of the husband and wife on the highway. Villagers along with the family sat on a dhama by placing the bodies of the couple at Deum intersection of Sangipur Lalganj highway at 9 am on Thursday. On receiving the information about the road jam, Sangipur SO Manish Tripathi reached the spot with the force. The family was not ready to listen to anything from the SO. Then Lalganj CO Ramsurat Sonkar reached the spot. On the assurance of the CO, the jam could be cleared after about three and a quarter hours. Kamlash Rajak, a resident of Deum West of Sangipur police station, had gone to the market on Tuesday evening with his wife Shivpati Devi on a bike to buy goods for his son's Tilak. The husband and wife died after being hit by a car near Gadha village. On Wednesday evening, after the post-mortem, when the bodies of the couple reached home, there was an uproar among the family members. On Thursday morning, the family members became suspicious about the post-mortem report. The family members expressed apprehension that there is manipulation of date in the post-mortem report. At the same time, the police did not conduct a medical check-up of the car driver. The family members were also angry that they were not given a copy of the FIR of the case registered regarding the incident. Even after the persuasion of SO Manish Tripathi, the dissatisfaction of the family members did not go away. On receiving the information, CO Ramsurat Sonkar reached the spot. After the CO's persuasion, the family ended the blockade at around 10:15 AM. After this, the family took the couple's bodies for the last rites. Traffic remained blocked on the Lalganj Sangipur road for about three hours.

A couple riding a bike who were going to buy Tilak items died in an accident

The woman did a high voltage drama by climbing on the water tank

Staff Reporter
Hamirpur. A woman did a high voltage drama by climbing on the tank of Vikas Bhawan situated in Sadar Kotwali area of the district. Police reached on the information and brought down the woman and handed her over to the family. The case is of the district headquarters. There was a stir in Vikas Bhawan of Kuchecha of Sadar Kotwali area of the district headquarters when a woman named Phoolkali, wife of Laalta, resident of village Pauthia of Lalpura police station area of the district, climbed on the water tank in a filmy stall and started doing high voltage drama. Seeing the woman doing drama on the tank, people gathered around, not only this, the employees and officers posted in Vikas Bhawan also left their official work and started watching the woman and kept pleading her to come down but the woman did not come down from the tank. Local people informed the concerned Kotwali Sadar. Police reached on the information and after convincing the woman, brought her down safely with the help of a woman constable and handed her over safely to Laalta, husband of Phoolkali, resident of village Pauthia. Police said that the woman who climbed on the water tank was mentally disturbed, who was handed over to her husband after being counselled. Has gone.

ED accused of working at the behest of the government

Congressmen protested against the charge sheet against Rahul and Sonia

Staff Reporter
Banda. Under the aegis of District and City Congress Committee, under the leadership of District Congress President Rajesh Dixit, Congressmen, in protest against the filing of charge sheet in the court under a fabricated conspiracy against Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi and other Congressmen, reached the Collectorate shouting slogans from the District Congress Office, where they expressed their protest by holding a strong demonstration and raising slogans against the ED and the current government.

Congress President Rajesh Dixit said that the ED is



working at the behest of the current government. In view of the increasing support base of Congress, such actions are being implemented with the aim of suppressing the

opposition. Congress is not going to be afraid of such government is afraid of Rahul Gandhi's popularity, it always adopts some kind of tactics to suppress the opposition, a living example of which is the ED charge sheet, every Congressman is standing shoulder to shoulder with the Gandhi family. In this demonstration, prominently women district president Seema Khan, former district president Lalu Dubey, Sankata Prasad Tripathi, Satya Prakash Dwivedi, Suraj Bajpai, GB Lal, Baldev Verma, Ad Dr. KP Sen, Ashok Vardhan, Pawan Devi Kori and a large number of Congress people were present.

Suraj Rai becomes SP Baghpat, wave of happiness in the district

Staff Reporter
Jaunpur. Suraj, a native of Pesara village of Muftiganj block, is happy with his family and the people of the district after he got his first posting as Superintendent of Police in Baghpat.

Suraj Rai, who was brilliant in studies since childhood, had a dream of becoming an engineer, for this he took admission in MMNIT Allahabad to do B.Tech. But God probably had something



else in mind. During the first semester itself, his father Mahendra Rai, who was working in the police department, was murdered in a land dispute in Ajourpur village of Kerakat block on 31 July 2009. In such circumstances where people get afflicted with the feeling of revenge and take to crime, Suraj Rai, instead of getting distracted in adverse circumstances, made these circumstances his strength

and after doing B.Tech, he succeeded in achieving the pride of becoming an IPS of UP cadre by securing 117th rank in a prestigious examination like UPSC in 2018. Suraj Rai's personality is a source of inspiration for the youth to succeed in both competitive exams and social life exams. It is known that Suraj Rai's elder brother Anand Rai 'Advocate' is an advocate in civil court and his

Discussion on the strength of Congress organization in detail

Staff Reporter
PRAYAGRAJ: Gangapar district president of the Congress party Ashfaq Ahmed was strongly welcomed and greeted at Pratappur, Nevada and Bhagautipur in Dhanupur. Thereafter under the organization creation campaign program the outgoing officials and senior leaders of the Congress were done in the presence. Meanwhile, his views were called by establishing a dialogue program. The strengthening of the Congress organization was discussed in detail and the BJP government's failure and indifference on problems of inflation, unemployment, education, health, support



price of farmers, electricity, water, drain, khadanja etc. were condemned. The struggle with the public about women harassment, Dalit oppression etc. was called. Ahmed said that the BJP

government needs to be rooted out. Until the Congress party will not be strengthened, the public will remain insecure. Poverty and unemployment will not get rid of. The Congress people

Shubham Kushwaha will attend the Best Diplomat Conference to be held in Geneva, Switzerland

Staff Reporter
Prayagraj: Research student Shubham Kushwaha has been selected to attend the Best Diplomat Conference to be held in Geneva, Switzerland. The Best Diplomat Conference is an educational simulation of the United Nations that engages students and young professionals from around the world, helping them learn more about the principles of the United Nations and its functioning. Best Diplomats offers participants a real-world simulation of international crisis management, where they have to deal with complex scenarios that test



their strategic thinking and interpersonal skills. Aditya Roy, Omkar Tiwari, Vijay Prajapati, Pushpendra Prajapati, Harshit Sharma, Shivam Yadav etc. have congratulated.

Women took a pledge to keep children away from evils in Durduriya program



Staff Reporter
Pratapgarh. Durduriya Bhoj was organized by Brahmadev Jagran Manch on Thursday in the premises of the ancient Shri Bela Devi temple located on the banks of the Sai river in the city. One thousand women participated in the program. Before worshipping Avasan Maiya, the state president of the organization, Pandit Satyendra Narayan Tiwari made all the women take a pledge to plant a tree at their homes and serve them like their sons. All the Brahmin women who came to the Durduriya program raised their hands and took a pledge to serve by planting a tree. During this, the women present discussed the increasing evils in the society and took a pledge to keep their children away from it. After this, the worship of Avasan Maiya started. General Secretary Pushpa Ojha said that there is a decline in values in our society, in view of this, such events should be organized from time to time for religious and spiritual advancement. On this occasion, Vibha Tiwari, Urmila Dubey, Anita Pandey, Sunita Pandey, Manju Shukla and other women were present. Bike rider dies after being hit by a tractor loaded with gravel Pratapgarh, Kunda. A bike rider died after being hit by a tractor loaded with gravel. As soon as the information was received, there was an uproar among the family members. The police, who arrived on the information, have sent the body for postmortem. 35-year-old Paras Nath Singh, a resident of Asthawan village of Sangramgarh police station area, was going to Kunda on Thursday with his bike. An uncontrolled tractor loaded with gravel hit his bike near Meerapur Lokaiyapur. Due to which he fell with the bike and the tractor went out crushing him. He died on the spot in the accident. On hearing the news of the death, there was an uproar among the family members including mother Shiv Murti Devi, wife Bharti Singh and seven-year-old son Shiv. After the incident, the driver left the tractor and fled from the spot. The police, who arrived on the information, sent the body for postmortem and took the tractor to the police station. Inspector Satyendra Singh Bhadoria said that the body is being sent for postmortem. The tractor is in custody. Action will be taken and a case will be registered after receiving the application.

BRIEFS

Rupee closed with gains



Mumbai (Agency). The Indian rupee closed at 85.39 with a gain of 25 paise against the US dollar on Thursday. This morning, the rupee strengthened for the fourth consecutive trading session amid foreign capital inflows in the domestic stock markets and the weak trend of the US currency and rose by 10 paise to 85.54 per dollar in early trade. However, foreign exchange traders say that the local currency's gains were limited due to sluggish sentiment in the stock market and a slight improvement in crude oil prices. The rupee opened at 85.48 per dollar in the interbank foreign exchange market and slipped to 85.54 against the dollar in early trade, showing a rise of 10 paise from the previous close price. The rupee closed at 85.64 against the US dollar on Wednesday. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which shows the position of the US dollar against six major currencies, stood at 99.28 with a gain of 0.14 per cent.

New Curve Dark Edition launched in Indian market

New Delhi (Agency). Swadeshi company Tata Motors has launched its new Curve Dark Edition in the Indian market. This car has become a part of the company's Dark Edition lineup, which already includes Harrier, Safari, Nexon, Punch and its electric versions. Its starting price has been kept at Rs 16.49 lakh (ex-showroom). This launch has happened after the Dark Edition variant of Citroen Basalt. Curve Dark Edition is available in two top trims Accomplished S and Accomplished +A. Its look is completely based on the black theme in which there is a smoked effect on the headlamps and taillamps with black grille, alloy wheels, roof rails, and tinted glass. The 'Dark Edition' badge on its rear fender makes it different from the standard model.

Petrol version of SUV Tata Harrier will be launched soon

New Delhi (Agency). Tata Motors Company will soon launch the petrol version of its popular SUV Tata Harrier. Recently, the Tata Harrier petrol model was seen during testing, which has fueled speculation about its launch soon. So far, this SUV is available in the market only in diesel engines, but now the company is preparing to introduce it in petrol variants as well. However, no official announcement has been made by the company yet. According to the information received, Tata Motors is planning to offer a new 1.5-liter turbocharged direct injection petrol engine in its Harrier and Safari SUVs. This engine will be capable of generating 170 PS of power and 280 Nm of torque. Along with this, this engine will be compliant with BS6 Phase-2 emission standards and will run on E20 ethanol-petrol mixed fuel. The company can launch it in the market with both manual and automatic transmission options. Thanks to the petrol engine, this SUV can not only become a more affordable option, but it is also expected to get a good response from customers who prefer to stay away from diesel vehicles.

IndusInd Bank external audit reveals Rs 1,979 crore derivative discrepancies



Mumbai (Agency): IndusInd Bank on Tuesday said the report prepared by the external agency – PwC — showed Rs 1,979 crore of 'negative impact' to the net worth of the bank due to the derivative discrepancies.

"Based on the report, the bank said that it has assessed an adverse impact of 2.27 per cent to its net worth as of 2024," it said in an exchange filing.

The bank also disclosed the ongoing review by an external agency which was independently reviewing the internal findings. "The report from the external agency identified discrepancies relating to derivative deals," it said.

"The bank will appropriately reflect the resultant impact in the financial statements for FY 2024-25 and will continue to take suitable steps to augment the internal controls relating to the derivative accounting operations of the bank," it said.

On March 10, 2025, the bank had disclosed that it noted certain discrepancies in accounts balances of its derivative portfolio. The internal review by the bank had estimated an adverse impact of approximately 2.35 per cent of the bank's net worth as of December 2024.

As per RBI directives on investments issued in September 2023, banks are prohibited from conducting internal trades/ hedging and, accordingly, IndusInd Bank too ceased internal trades from April 1, 2024. However, during an internal review, the bank identified certain discrepancies where accounting of losses on forex derivatives/ swap transactions executed prior to April 2024 (over the past 5-7 years) to hedge forex deposits/ debt were not recognised through NII (net interest income), while the corresponding treasury gains were recognised in the P&L. Derivatives are used by treasury department to convert forex deposits/ borrowings into the rupee.

India's air passenger growth may outpace China's from 2026; likely to be fastest-growing major aviation market over next 3 decades

New Delhi (Agency): The growth rate of India's air passenger traffic appears set to overtake that of China in 2026, and the former is likely to be the world's fastest-growing large aviation market over the next three decades, per projections from global airports industry body Airports Council International (ACI). While China's size as an aviation market is notably bigger than India, the pace of the latter's growth is expected to gather pace amid rapidly growing air travel demand from a massive population

base whose per capita air travel is low, which in turn points to a significant growth potential.



China, on the other hand, is already at a level of relatively greater maturity as an aviation

market, and the scope of speedy growth may be limited vis-a-vis India.

Nevertheless, ACI's long-term projections show that China is likely to overtake the US as the

world's largest aviation market by passenger numbers by 2053. India, despite the expected faster growth, is likely to maintain its position as the world's third-largest aviation market over the next 30 years. The relatively high base of flyers in the US and China means that even with lower rates of growth than India's, the aviation markets of these two giants will still be larger even 30 years down the line. According to ACI's short-term projections till 2027, India's air passenger growth in 2026 is seen at 10.5 per cent,

higher than China's 8.9 per cent for that year. For 2027, India's growth rate is pegged at 10.3 per cent, while that of China is seen at 7.2 per cent. While the two aviation markets' respective growth rates for 2024 were identical at 7.1 per cent, China's is projected to be 12 per cent for 2025, higher than 10.1 per cent projected for India. The compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of India's air passenger traffic for 2023-2027 is pegged at 9.5 per cent, higher than the projection of 8.8 per cent for China.

Stock market closed with gains, Sensex came up by 1508 points

Mumbai (Agency). Indian stock market closed with gains on Thursday. This rise in the market has come due to the dominance of buying despite weak signals from around the world. This morning the market started with a decline, but in the second session it started gaining momentum which continued till the end. With this, after the day's trading, the BSE Sensex of 30 shares finally closed at 78,553.20, up 1508.91 points or about 1.96 per cent. Similarly, the National Stock Exchange's Nifty of 50 shares also closed at 23,851.65 with a gain of 414.45 points or about 1.77 per cent. According to market experts, the reason for the rise in this has also been the

tremendous buying by foreign institutional investors in the last two trading sessions. In the last two days, they have bought shares worth ₹ 10,000 crore. Which also boosted the market. On the other hand, if we talk about the markets around the world, there was a huge decline in the US stock markets, which also affected the Asian markets and India. Nvidia shares in the US declined due to selling in technology stocks. At the same time, US Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell has expressed concern about trade tariffs and said that it may be difficult to maintain economic growth along with controlling inflation.

There was a huge decline in the US stock markets. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed down 1.73 per cent at 39,669.39. At the same time, the S&P 500 fell 2.24 per cent and closed at 5,275.70. The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite fell 3.07 per cent to 16,307.16. Futures stocks rose slightly in the morning. Dow Jones futures rose 0.40 per cent, S&P 500 futures rose 0.47 per cent and Nasdaq 100 futures rose 0.56 per cent. Talking about Asian markets, there has been mixed trading. Japan's Nikkei 225 index rose 0.7 per cent, South Korea's Kospi rose 0.45 per cent. At the same time, Australia's S&P/ASX 200 index rose 0.28 per cent.

Govt fears trade war may trigger import surge of US farm, Chinese factory goods

New Delhi (Agency): AMID ESCALATING global trade tensions, the Commerce and Industry Ministry is assessing the risks of significant trade diversion from other countries to India and is particularly concerned about the likely surge in imports of US farm produce and factory goods from China, Vietnam and Indonesia into the country, a government official said on Tuesday. "A recent assessment highlighted the risk of merchandise dumping into India due to reciprocal tariffs amid global trade tensions. Rising US costs may prompt exporters from countries like China, Vietnam, and Indonesia—all facing US trade deficits—to divert goods to India, potentially triggering import surges. Additionally, Chinese retaliatory tariffs on US goods could further increase the

inflow of US agricultural products into India," the official said. Unlike other countries, China retaliated against US tariffs, which in turn has raised the risk of trade diversions globally. While the US has imposed a cumulative of 145 per cent tariffs on Chinese products apart from electronic items, Chinese tariffs on US items have also surged to a record 125 per cent. Notably, soybean and corn are the top US agri exports to China. To support stakeholders amid shifting global trade conditions, including tariff hikes, import surges, and export-related disruptions, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Commerce Ministry launched the Global Tariff and Trade Helpdesk on April 11, 2025, the Commerce and Industry Ministry said.

"With a number of tariff announcements and subsequent pauses, things are in flux. But we are looking at import surges and have



identified some countries for more intense monitoring. We have also picked commodities for closer watch because we are already aware of certain trends, and we are focusing on those commodities," Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said. "Depending upon how the

world is moving in terms of tariffs, counter-tariffs, exemptions and other developments, we are monitoring those imports. We

are also in touch with our stakeholders. Our commodity divisions within the Ministry of Commerce are in contact with export promotion councils and various ministries. Based on the feedback, inputs, and data we analyse, remedial measures will, of course, be taken,"

Barthwal said. Meanwhile, the Commerce Ministry said the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), the anti-dumping watchdog, has issued final findings on 13 trade remedy investigations on imports in March alone, particularly from China and other countries such as Japan, Taiwan, and the European Union. Items include Vitamin-A Palmitate, Insoluble Sulphur, and Aluminium Foil up to 80 microns, among others. Economists and trade experts have also raised concerns over a surge in exports from China. A research note by HDFC Bank on Friday stated that apart from the direct impact of US tariffs on Indian exports, India faces a "high risk" of oversupply from China, which could hurt domestic manufacturing.

US has big advantages on services, but projects deficits on goods trade; talks will be based on 'true picture', says govt

New Delhi (Agency): Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said Tuesday that the Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) talks with the US are focused on the exchange of "right facts" and the "true picture" of trade between the two countries. This comes as US President Donald Trump has consistently sought to pressurise trade partners, accusing them of "ripping the US off" on goods trade, but overlooking the advantages that America enjoys in the services sector. "When we engage with the US team, all the facts are on the table, and the negotiations are based on the right facts and the data we exchange with them. That is completely rooted in the true picture which exists between the two countries. So, the BTA progresses on those lines," Barthwal said. Multiple experts in India have also pointed out that the 26 per cent reciprocal tariffs announced by the US on India were based solely on goods trade, while ignoring

services trade — an area where the US and other Western countries hold considerable advantages over developing nations. According to data compiled by the US Bureau of Economic Analysis, which falls under the country's Department of Commerce, services exports from the US to India have consistently grown over the last three years. In 2022, such exports stood at \$26.53 billion, rising to \$33.99 billion in 2023, and \$40.26 billion in 2024. Notably, the US recorded a marginal trade deficit with India in terms of services imports from New Delhi during the same period — with imports recorded at \$33.03 billion in 2022, \$36.4 billion in 2023 and \$40.74 billion in 2024. India is considered the largest market by user base for several major US tech companies — such as Meta's Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, and Alphabet's Google Search and YouTube — owing to its large population and some of the

world's lowest internet data rates. As such, beyond direct monetary value, Indian users provide hundreds of millions of eyeballs for American tech products, while also generating vast amounts of



data to fine-tune their services. Incidentally, countering concerns over the selective use of goods trade deficit, China, in a white paper released last week, said that services and local sales of domestic enterprises' branches in the other country (i.e., local sales generated through two-way investment) should also be taken into account when discussing trade. "When the three components — trade in

goods, trade in services, and local sales of domestic enterprises' branches in the other country — are considered together, it becomes clear that the economic and trade benefits

accrued by China and the US are roughly balanced," the Chinese white paper stated. In India, revenues from major American companies' operations here have been on a steady rise, particularly in online advertising, which has seen substantial growth due to increasing digital adoption in the country. For instance, Meta India's revenue from operations in FY24 grew by 9.3 per cent to Rs 3,034.8 crore, up from Rs 2,775.7

crore in FY23, while its net profit rose by 43 per cent to nearly Rs 505 crore. Meta India also makes royalty payments to Meta USA for the commercialisation of intellectual property, along with infrastructure charges. Similarly, Google India saw its revenues increase by 26 per cent to Rs 5,921.1 crore in FY24, from Rs 4,700 crore in FY23. Microsoft India's FY24 revenue grew by more than 18 per cent year-on-year to nearly Rs 23,000 crore. The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said that the US frequently misrepresents trade figures. "For example, Trump claimed that the US trade deficit with India is \$100 billion, whereas India's official data places it at under \$45 billion. Similarly, the White House fact sheet inaccurately stated that India imposes a 100 per cent tariff on Harley-Davidson motorcycles, when the actual tariff was reduced from 50 per cent to 30 per cent on 1 February 2025," the GTRI report stated.

SEBI bans Gensol Engg, promoters from securities market in fund diversion case



New Delhi (Agency): Capital markets regulator SEBI on Tuesday barred Gensol Engineering and promoters — Anmol Singh Jaggi and Puneet Singh Jaggi — from the securities markets till further orders in a fund diversion and governance lapses case.

The regulator has also debarred Anmol and Puneet Singh Jaggi from holding the position of a director or key managerial personnel in Gensol until further orders.

Further, the markets watchdog directed Gensol Engineering Ltd (GEL) to put on hold the stock split announced by it. The order came after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) received a complaint in June 2024 relating to the manipulation of share price and diversion of funds from GEL and thereafter started examining the matter. In a 29-page interim order, SEBI said, "The prima facie findings have shown mis-utilisation and diversion of funds of the company (GEL) in a fraudulent manner by its promoter directors, Anmol Singh Jaggi and Puneet Singh Jaggi, who are also the direct beneficiaries of the diverted funds". "The company has attempted to mislead SEBI, the CRAs (credit rating agencies), the lenders and the investors by submitting forged conduct letters purportedly issued by its lenders," the regulator said. The notices 1, 2 and 3 (GEL, Anmol and Puneet Singh Jaggi) are alleged to have violated the provisions of PFUTP (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices) rules, it added.

SEBI noted that the promoters were running a listed public company as if it were a proprietary firm. GEL's funds were routed to related parties and used for unconnected expenses as if the company's funds were promoters' piggy banks. The result of these transactions would mean that the diversions at some time need to be written off from Gensol's books, ultimately resulting in losses to the investors of the company.

"...prima facie evidence of a blatant violation of rules of corporate governance is writ large over the workings of the company. The diversion of funds of the company (GEL) by promoter entities reflects a culture of weak internal control, where even ring-fenced borrowings from institutional creditors were rerouted at the total discretion of the promoters," SEBI's whole-time member Ashwani Bhatia said in the order.

Domestic sales of commercial vehicles expected to cross 10 lakh in the current financial year



Mumbai (Agency). Domestic sales of commercial vehicles may cross the 10 lakh mark in the year 2025-26. Rating agency Crisil said that volume growth will be led by light commercial vehicles (LCVs). With the increasing reach of e-commerce and warehouses, they are expected to account for about 62 per cent of the total volume. The commercial vehicle (CV) sector consists of two segments LCV and M&HCV. Buses are classified under both segments. The Senior Director of Crisil Ratings Limited said that the domestic commercial vehicle sector sales should grow by 3 to 5 per cent in the current financial year. This will help it recover from last year's slowdown and align with the long-term growth trend. He said that domestic commercial vehicle sales are expected to cross the 10 lakh unit mark in the current financial year 2025-26, which is equal to the high level before the Covid-19 pandemic.

EDITORIAL

Unyielding Resolve

In the on-going saga of global trade tensions, the persistent standoff between China and the United States has become a defining chapter. While successive tariff escalations have rattled markets and disrupted supply chains, what remains most striking is China's steadfast refusal to capitulate under pressure – particularly when it comes from what it perceives as unilateral aggression. China's stance is rooted in more than just economics; it is a matter of political identity and national pride. To yield to external coercion, especially from a leader known for brash tactics, would be seen internally as weakness – something the current Chinese leadership is unwilling to entertain. For China, this is as much about principle as it is about policy. It has framed the trade conflict as a test of sovereignty and resilience, not merely as a disagreement over commerce. Despite the significant trade relationship between the two countries, it is important to remember that exports to the US account for a relatively small share of China's overall economy. While any disruption to trade hurts, China's leaders know they have room to maneuver. This gives Beijing the flexibility to weather short-term pain for long-term strategic gain. In contrast to the assumption that tariffs would bring China to the negotiating table on American terms, the strategy has arguably had the opposite effect – galvanising Chinese resolve and prompting diversification in trade partnerships. Indeed, China has been expanding its global economic outreach, strengthening ties with countries across Asia, Africa, and Europe.



Whether it's courting new markets, reducing dependence on the US, or reconfiguring supply chains, Beijing has made it clear that it won't be cornered. This widening network of alliances and cooperative agreements is not just pragmatic – it's a calculated signal that China doesn't intend to fight this battle alone. This resilience also reflects China's long-term approach to international affairs. Unlike the often short-term focus of democracies, China's leadership operates with a broader timeline. It can absorb immediate setbacks if they serve its larger strategic goals, including reshaping the global trade architecture to reflect a multipolar world not dominated by Western norms. Symbolism also plays a vital role in China's response. Invoking historical figures and referencing past struggles against foreign powers is meant to stir a collective sense of endurance and nationalism. It reinforces the narrative that this is not just a trade dispute, but a larger contest of will and vision between two global powers. In reality, the tit-for-tat tariffs have largely passed the point of genuine economic leverage. Much of the affected trade has already been rerouted, reduced, or replaced. What remains is political theatre – each side signalling strength to domestic audiences and international observers alike. Ultimately, China's refusal to yield isn't simply about defiance; it is about asserting its place in a global order where it sees itself not as a subordinate, but as a peer. The message is clear: economic pressure alone will not bend China's strategic priorities or its sense of dignity.

Whether it's courting new markets, reducing dependence on the US, or reconfiguring supply chains, Beijing has made it clear that it won't be cornered. This widening network of alliances and cooperative agreements is not just pragmatic – it's a calculated signal that China doesn't intend to fight this battle alone. This resilience also reflects China's long-term approach to international affairs. Unlike the often short-term focus of democracies, China's leadership operates with a broader timeline. It can absorb immediate setbacks if they serve its larger strategic goals, including reshaping the global trade architecture to reflect a multipolar world not dominated by Western norms. Symbolism also plays a vital role in China's response. Invoking historical figures and referencing past struggles against foreign powers is meant to stir a collective sense of endurance and nationalism. It reinforces the narrative that this is not just a trade dispute, but a larger contest of will and vision between two global powers. In reality, the tit-for-tat tariffs have largely passed the point of genuine economic leverage. Much of the affected trade has already been rerouted, reduced, or replaced. What remains is political theatre – each side signalling strength to domestic audiences and international observers alike. Ultimately, China's refusal to yield isn't simply about defiance; it is about asserting its place in a global order where it sees itself not as a subordinate, but as a peer. The message is clear: economic pressure alone will not bend China's strategic priorities or its sense of dignity.

A network of residential schools integrating sports and academics – that's what we need to nurture sports champions

Ramvilas Sharma



In every child, there is talent, sometimes obvious, often latent, which, if nurtured, can help her scale great heights. Yet, this talent often goes unnoticed, especially when it comes to sports. Imagine if every child in India who loved to run, jump, or kick a ball, throw a shot put or play chess was seen as a possible future champion and not as a kid with misplaced priorities. India's performance in global competitive sports highlights a significant gap between potential and reality. Despite being the world's most populous country with over 1.4 billion people, our medal tally at major events like the Olympics remains low. While the competitiveness of our sportspeople is increasing, this hasn't yet corresponded to outcomes. While athletes like P V Sindhu, Neeraj Chopra, Mirabai Chanu, 2024 Paralympic gold medalist Praveen Kumar and others have captured global attention, the broader system supporting sports remains fractured, plagued by societal perceptions, limited infrastructure, and a lack of integration between sports and academics. The other aspect to ponder, perhaps even more important than winning medals, is the under-recognised impact of

participation in sports on our mental and physical wellbeing, and consequently, the benefits flowing from a fit community. A foundational exposure to varied sports is imperative to building a national sports culture. In India, academics have long been considered the sole ladder to success. For families navigating the challenges of economic insecurity, sports have been viewed as a risky gamble, a luxury they cannot afford. For many young athletes, pursuing their passion means compromising on education, leaving them without viable alternatives if their sporting dreams don't materialise. Emil Zátopek, the renowned Czech long-distance runner, once said, "An athlete cannot run with money in his pockets. He must run with hope in his heart and dreams in his head." In other words, budding athletes require a comprehensive support system that instils faith in their abilities. Some educational institutions do have robust sports programmes. The country also has a few specialised sports schools. Unfortunately, most such institutions remain unaffordable for a large chunk of the country's population. This is why a more comprehensive narrative is needed – one of

winning, where the entire system actively supports a child's dream of becoming a champion. Imagine a network of residential schools dedicated to seamlessly integrating sports and academics. Unlike traditional schools that prioritise academics, these institutions would place sports at their core. Students would follow a dual pathway, excelling in their chosen sport while acquiring a strong academic foundation. These schools would operate on a carefully designed framework. Beginning from Class 6, students would be introduced to a multi-sport foundation programme that emphasises building agility, strength, and coordination. Specialisation would come later, guided by scientific assessments, around Class 9. This staggered approach ensures that early burnout is avoided, and that decisions are rooted in data rather than assumptions. The curriculum, aligned with NEP 2020, would merge traditional academic subjects with sports science. For instance, physics lessons could include studying the mechanics of a javelin throw. Each school would feature world-class facilities with all sports-oriented basic facilities, but also some more layered infrastructure and coaching capacity tailored to the region's sporting strengths. For instance, campuses in Haryana could focus on wrestling, while those in the Northeast might prioritise football. Olympic-standard tracks, biomechanics labs, and nutrition centres would provide students with the resources needed to compete internationally.

“ This model wouldn't just produce medals – it would fundamentally change how a nation views sports as a pathway and for society ”

Door opens

After years of hostility, the recent resumption of talks between the United States and Iran marks a fragile but noteworthy moment in international diplomacy. Led by US envoy Steve Witkoff and Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, the two delegations met in Oman for what both sides described as a "constructive" exchange. While the meeting was mostly mediated and brief, the tone and outcome offer cautious optimism in an otherwise tense geopolitical landscape. What makes this moment unique is not just the high-level engagement – the first of its kind since 2018 – but the departure from the confrontational rhetoric that has often dominated US-Iran relations. The fact that both sides agreed to a second round of talks suggests a mutual recognition that dialogue, even if limited and indirect, is preferable to escalation. For once, the language of diplomacy prevailed over threats, and that itself is progress. However, realism must temper optimism. The geopolitical and domestic stakes for both countries are higher than ever. Iran's nuclear programme has advanced significantly since the American withdrawal from the 2015 agreement. According to international observers, Iran has stockpiled uranium enriched up to 60 per cent purity – dangerously close to weapons-grade – far exceeding the limits of the original deal. On the American side, political pressure to appear tough on Iran is immense, particularly with military options constantly looming in the background. This backdrop complicates negotiations. Iran seeks sanctions relief and a fair deal that respects its sovereignty while preserving elements of its nuclear capability for peaceful purposes. The United States, meanwhile, is adamant that Iran must never obtain nuclear weapons – a stance reinforced by regional allies and the memory of failed past agreements.



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Finding common ground between these two positions will be extraordinarily difficult. Still, the decision to engage – even indirectly – demonstrates a willingness to explore alternatives to confrontation. The involvement of Oman as a mediator reflects a smart use of regional diplomacy, and even the brief in-person interaction between Mr Witkoff and Mr Araghchi can be seen as a symbolic thaw in relations. While small, such gestures are often the building blocks of larger breakthroughs. But expectations should remain measured. This is only the beginning of what could be a long, winding road. The success of these talks will depend not just on what is said at the negotiating table, but on whether both sides are willing to make difficult compromises under intense political scrutiny. In a world increasingly dominated by zero-sum thinking, the return to dialogue is a welcome shift. It's a reminder that diplomacy – however imperfect or indirect – still holds the potential to defuse tensions and avert disaster. Whether this opportunity evolves into a lasting agreement remains uncertain. But the door has been opened, and that, for now, is something to build on.

Tariff war offers strategic gains to China

Ramvilas Sharma

When Donald Trump pulled back on his plan to impose eye-watering tariffs on trading partners across the world, there was one key exception: China. While the rest of the world would be given a 90-day reprieve on additional duties beyond the new 10 per cent tariffs on all U.S. trade partners, China would feel the squeeze even more. On April 9, Trump raised the tariff on Chinese goods to 125 per cent – bringing the total U.S. tariff on some Chinese imports to 145 per cent.

The move, in Trump's telling, was prompted by Beijing's "lack of respect for global markets." But the U.S. president may well have been smarting from Beijing's apparent willingness to confront U.S. tariffs head on. While many countries opted not to retaliate against Trump's now-delayed reciprocal tariff hikes, instead favoring negotiation and dialogue, Beijing took a different tack.

It responded with swift and firm countermeasures. On April 11, China dismissed Trump's moves as a "joke" and raised its own tariff against the U.S. to 125 per cent. The two economies are now locked in an all-out, high-intensity trade standoff. And China is showing no signs of backing down. And as an expert on U.S.-China relations, I wouldn't expect China to.

Unlike the first U.S.-China trade war during Trump's initial term, when Beijing eagerly sought to negotiate with the U.S., China now holds far more leverage. Indeed, Beijing believes it can inflict at least as much damage on the U.S. as vice versa, while at the same time expanding its global position. There's no doubt that the consequences of tariffs are severe for China's export-oriented

manufacturers – especially those in the coastal regions producing furniture, clothing, toys and home appliances for American consumers.

But since Trump first launched a tariff increase on China in 2018, a number of underlying economic factors have significantly shifted Beijing's calculus. Crucially, the importance of the U.S. market to China's export-driven economy has declined significantly. In 2018, at the start of the first trade war, U.S.-bound exports accounted for 19.8 per cent of China's total exports. In 2023, that figure had fallen to 12.8 per cent. The tariffs may further prompt China to accelerate its "domestic demand expansion" strategy, unleashing the spending power of its consumers and strengthening its domestic economy. And while China entered the 2018 trade war in a phase of strong economic growth, the current situation is quite different.

Sluggish real estate markets, capital flight and Western "decoupling" have pushed the Chinese economy into a period of persistent slowdown. Perhaps counterintuitively, this prolonged downturn may have made the Chinese economy more resilient to shocks. It has pushed businesses and policymakers to come to factor in the existing harsh economic realities, even before the impact of Trump's tariffs. Trump's tariff policy against China may also allow Beijing a useful external scapegoat, allowing it to rally public sentiment and shift blame for the economic slowdown onto U.S. aggression.

China also understands that the U.S. cannot easily replace its dependency on Chinese goods, particularly through its supply

chains. While direct U.S. imports from China have decreased, many goods now imported from third countries still rely on Chinese-made components or raw materials. By 2022, the U.S. relied on China for 532 key product categories – nearly four times the level in 2000 – while China's reliance on U.S. products was cut by half in the same period. There's a related public opinion calculation: Rising tar-



iffs are expected to drive up prices, something that could stir discontent among American consumers, particularly blue-collar voters.

Indeed, Beijing believes Trump's tariffs risk pushing the previously strong U.S. economy toward a recession. Alongside the changed economic environments, China also holds a number of strategic tools for retaliation against the U.S. It dominates the global rare earth supply chain – critical to military and high-tech industries – supplying roughly 72 per cent of U.S. rare earth imports, by some estimates. On March 4, China placed 15 American entities on its export control list, followed by another 12 on April 9. Many were U.S. defense contractors or high-tech firms reliant on rare earth elements for their products. China also retains the ability

to target key U.S. agricultural export sectors such as poultry and soybeans – industries heavily dependent on Chinese demand and concentrated in Republican-leaning states. China accounts for about half of U.S. soybean exports and nearly 10 per cent of American poultry exports. On March 4, Beijing revoked import approvals for three major U.S. soybean exporters. And on the tech side,

many U.S. companies – such as Apple and Tesla – remain deeply tied to Chinese manufacturing. Tariffs threaten to shrink their profit margins significantly, something Beijing believes can be used as a source of leverage against the Trump administration. Already, Beijing is reportedly planning to strike back through regulatory pressure on U.S. companies operating in China. Meanwhile, the fact that Elon Musk, a senior Trump insider who has clashed with U.S. trade adviser Peter Navarro against tariffs, has major business interests in China is a particularly strong wedge that Beijing could yet exploit in an attempt to divide the Trump administration. While Beijing thinks it can weather Trump's sweeping tariffs on a bilateral basis, it also believes the U.S.

broadside against its own trading partners has created a generational strategic opportunity to displace American hegemony. Close to home, this shift could significantly reshape the geopolitical landscape of East Asia. Already on March 30 – after Trump had first raised tariffs on Beijing – China, Japan and South Korea hosted their first economic dialogue in five years and pledged to advance a trilateral free trade agreement. The move was particularly remarkable given how carefully the U.S. had worked to cultivate its Japanese and South Korean allies during the Biden administration as part of its strategy to counter Chinese regional influence. From Beijing's perspective, Trump's actions offer an opportunity to directly erode U.S. sway in the Indo-Pacific. Similarly, Trump's steep tariffs on Southeast Asian countries, which were also a major strategic regional priority during the Biden administration, may push those nations closer to China.

Chinese state media announced on April 11 that President Xi Jinping will pay state visits to Vietnam, Malaysia and Cambodia from April 14-18, aiming to deepen "all-round cooperation" with neighbouring countries. Notably, all three Southeast Asian nations were targeted with now-paused reciprocal tariffs by the Trump administration – 49 per cent on Cambodian goods, 46 per cent on Vietnamese exports and 24 per cent on products from Malaysia. Farther away from China lies an even more promising strategic opportunity.

Trump's tariff strategy has already prompted China and officials from the European Union to contemplate strengthening their own previously strained trade ties, something that could weaken the transatlantic alliance that had sought to decouple from China. On April 8, the president of the European Commission held a call with China's premier, during which both sides jointly condemned U.S. trade protectionism and advocated for free and open trade. Coincidentally, on April 9, the day China raised tariffs on U.S. goods to 84 per cent, the EU also announced its first wave of retaliatory measures – imposing a 25 per cent tariff on selected U.S. imports worth over \$20 billion – but delayed implementation following Trump's 90-day pause. Now, EU and Chinese officials are holding talks over existing trade barriers and considering a full-fledged summit in China in July. Finally, China sees in Trump's tariff policy a potential weakening of the international standing of the U.S. dollar. Widespread tariffs imposed on multiple countries have shaken investor confidence in the U.S. economy, contributing to a decline in the dollar's value. Traditionally, the dollar and U.S. Treasury bonds have been viewed as haven assets, but recent market turmoil has cast doubt on that status.

At the same time, steep tariffs have raised concerns about the health of the U.S. economy and the sustainability of its debt, undermining trust in both the dollar and U.S. Treasury bonds. While Trump's tariffs will inevitably hurt parts of the Chinese economy, Beijing appears to have far more cards to play this time around. It has the tools to inflict meaningful damage on U.S. interests – and perhaps more importantly, Trump's all-out tariff war is providing China with a rare and unprecedented strategic opportunity.

Rebellious voice within NDA for the first time in Modi rule

The image of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), which returned to power at the center for the third time under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is not as strong as before. In the first two terms, the Bharatiya Janata Party was in power with a clear majority. This time it has to depend on allies to form the government. This is the compulsion of coalition politics. For the first time in the last 11 years, the Modi-Shah duo is facing rebellious attitudes of allies. It has already started in Bihar and Gujarat. In Bihar, Paras Paswan and Manjhi have sounded the bugle of rebellion. They have joined the India Alliance. His nephew Chirag Paswan is with the NDA. The new political situation is being seen on the ground regarding the Waqf Bill and Dalits. After that, uncle Paras has shaken off the NDA and joined the India Alliance. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has also made inroads into Modi and Shah's home state Gujarat. Former BJP MLA and General Secretary Mahesh Vasava has joined hands with Congress in Gujarat. Rahul Gandhi went to Gujarat on Wednesday. There he has posed a new challenge for BJP. In Andhra Pradesh, whether it is Chandrababu Naidu's Telugu Desam Party or Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (U), both the parties are now more vocal than necessary about their existence and share in the alliance. The demands of proper representation in the cabinet, special demands of the states and importance in policy making are now being raised by the allies of the NDA alliance not only in a hushed voice but from public forums. This situation shows that BJP does not have absolute rule like before. The way BJP has made inroads in Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's party Janata Dal U, the existence of Janata Dal in Bihar is going to end. The game of Orissa is being played by BJP in Bihar. Its tremendous reaction is being seen in the allies. Fear and apprehension is being seen in the allies of the NDA alliance. Allies are now claiming a greater share in power. Voices of dissent have started coming out openly within the NDA alliance. Allies are no longer afraid of Modi-Shah and ED, CBI. Allies are talking about rights. Allies are now pressuring the central government to reconsider policies like 'One Nation, One Policy'. The situation has also changed rapidly in many states of the country regarding the Waqf Bill, due to which the existence of small regional parties seems to be in danger.

There is also a positive side to this development. This pressure is necessary for the healthy process of democracy. The monopoly that BJP and the central government have right now. Allies are feeling neglected. All the allies in the NDA are putting their views forward openly. If they are ignored, it can lead to rebellion. Which can affect the stability of the central government. BJP will have to follow the coalition dharma in the changed circumstances and adopt a policy of dialogue with the allies. The central government and BJP will have to respect all the partners and give priority to their demands. Only then will a strong alliance be able to remain. The kind of challenge the central government is currently facing, it includes increasing economic crisis, inflation, unemployment, social and political equities are changing very fast in the country. The rebellious voices of the allies are not just disagreement, but also a warning for the BJP. Sharing power in democracy is the key to stability. The allies feel that it will be difficult for the BJP to win elections or face challenges in future. In such a situation, the allies will not delay in changing sides to save their existence, this is the fate of the alliance so far. The Modi-Shah duo needs to pay attention in this direction in time. The grip of Modi-Shah is gradually weakening.

BRIEFS

Mohammad Yunus sitting in China's lap, became a headache for India



Dhaka (Agency). In the last eight months, there has been a major change in Bangladesh from domestic politics to foreign policy. This change has happened after the fall of Sheikh Hasina's government in August last year and Mohammad Yunus took over power. Yunus has made many important agreements while visiting China recently. China also wants to strengthen its relations with Bangladesh, because it wants to reduce India's regional power. At the same time, Pakistan is also increasing its interference in Bangladesh, which has become a cause of concern for India's security. According to the report, China has promised to give Bangladesh the facility of selling goods without duty till 2028. Bangladesh has also got assurance of investment, loan and grant of 2.1 billion dollars from China. Apart from this, China is also helping Bangladesh in helping Rohingya refugees and in talks with Myanmar. In recent months, the number of Bangladeshis getting treatment in India has decreased. China is becoming their new destination. Bangladesh may get the status of the least developed country (LDC) in the year 2026. Even after this, China will continue to provide loan facilities to Bangladesh. China has proposed to start negotiations on a free trade agreement and investment agreement to increase investment in Bangladesh.

Tension increased between Algeria and France, 12 French officials asked to leave the country

Algeria (Agency). Algeria has asked 12 French officials to leave the country within 48 hours, which has increased tension between the two countries. The Algerian Foreign Ministry said that this decision has been taken after the arrest of an Algerian counselor in France. French Home Minister Bruno Retaillo is responsible for this. The recent dispute between the two countries started on April 11 when France arrested three Algerian citizens. This included the Algerian counselor as well. They are accused of kidnapping an Algerian social media influencer Amir Boukhors in April 2024. Amir has been living in France since 2016. He got political asylum there in the year 2023. He is known for criticizing the Algerian government. France's investigation revealed that an Algerian counselor may also have a hand in the kidnapping. The counselor's phone was seen around the Emir's house. After this, France arrested three Algerians on charges of kidnapping, illegal detention and being associated with a terrorist organization. Algeria called this action of France wrong and said that their counselor was arrested from a public place without any diplomatic information, which is a violation of his rights.



London (Agency). A large number of Islamic fundamentalist prisoners are lodged in Britain's high security prisons. Due to their increasing number, they are now becoming a cause of concern for the security agencies. Hashim Avedi, convicted of the 2017 Manchester Arena bomb blast, attacked three prison officers in Frankland prison along with his fellow prisoners on April 12. The Islamic fundamentalists carried out this attack with hot oil and sharp weapons. In which two prison officers were seriously injured. According to the report published in the London newspaper, Frankland prison is currently occupied by Islamic fundamentalist prisoners.

'Resist protectionism,' China's Xi tells Cambodia amid US tariff standoff

NEW DELHI: China's leader Xi Jinping urged Cambodia to "resist protectionism," as he arrived in Phnom Penh on Thursday at the end of a three-nation tour of Southeast Asia, as U.S. tariffs threatened the economies of both countries. Cambodia is a major exporter of clothing and footwear to the United States, and was slapped with a rate of 49%, one of the highest globally, before "reciprocal" duties were paused until July for most countries, except those on China which faces combined tariffs of 145%. In an article published on Thursday morning in Cambodian media, Xi urged Phnom Penh to oppose "hegemonism" and "protectionism", repeating messages he sent earlier this week to Vietnam and Malaysia during the first two legs of his trip. Phnom Penh is a close partner of China, which has invested billions of dollars in projects including roads and airports, and is the country's largest creditor. "We expect more cooperation including on infrastructure development," Meas Soksensan, spokesman for the Cambodian finance ministry, told Reuters on the eve of Xi's arrival in the capital Phnom Penh. He was answering a question about whether Cambodia expected Beijing to announce financial support for a 180 km (111.85 miles) canal, which is the country's most ambitious infrastructure project. Xi, who has a road named after him on the outskirts of the capital, extolled the positive economic impact of past Chinese infrastructure projects, pledged to

SCAMS AND FLAGS

Xi's visit to Cambodia has been seen as a charm offensive in Southeast Asia, in the wake of the U.S. tariffs that hit the region hard. Xi reiterated the two countries have an "ironclad friendship", but also urged Cambodia to crack down on online frauds. Scam centres in Cambodia are often run by Chinese gangs and target Chinese nationals, either as victims or captive workers. Before Xi's arrival, the Cambodian government said it had deported to China a number of "Chinese criminals", including people from Taiwan, in a move that angered Taipei and was praised by Beijing. As he travelled from the airport to meetings with leaders, Xi was cheered by people lining the road waving Chinese flags, footage posted on social media showed. "Lots of flags, lots of MoUs and lots of bromances, probably not a lot of substance," a Cambodia-based Western diplomat said of the visit, referring to non-binding memoranda of understanding that are often signed during state visits.

continue to "unswervingly support" Cambodia's development, but mentioned no new specific project in his statements on Thursday. The Cambodian government has said China would pay for the Funan Techo Canal, which would run from the Mekong River, from a site near Phnom Penh, to the coast on the Gulf of Thailand, diverting water from the fragile rice-growing Mekong Delta and reducing Cambodian shipping through Vietnamese ports. China has so far made no public financial commitment to the project, while Phnom Penh has changed its statements on Chinese engagement from covering 100% to 49% of total costs, estimated at \$1.7 billion, nearly 4% of Cambodia's annual gross domestic product. Beijing signed no new loans to Cambodia last year, according to Cambodian official data, a marked contrast with previous years when it lent the country hundreds of millions of dollars. The drop in funding came as China reduced overall overseas investments amid domestic economic woes and concerns over unsuccessful projects.



'How we're capable of both great cruelty and kindness...':

In Easter address, King Charles reflects on 'paradox of human life'



NEW DELHI: In his Easter message, King Charles III reflected on the "paradox of human life," talking about both the cruelty and compassion inherent in humanity. His address came ahead of the Royal Maundy Service at Durham Cathedral, which he attended alongside Queen Camilla. "One of the puzzles of our humanity is how we are capable of both great cruelty and great kindness," the King said in his message. "This paradox of human life runs through the Easter story and in the scenes that daily come before our eyes — at one moment, terrible images of

human suffering and, in another, heroic acts in war torn countries where humanitarians of every kind risk their own lives to protect the lives of others." He continued, "A few weeks ago, I met many such people at a reception in Buckingham Palace and felt a profound sense of admiration for their resilience, courage and compassion." "On Maundy Thursday, Jesus knelt and washed the feet of many of those who would abandon Him. His humble action was a token of His love that knew no bounds or boundaries and is central to Christian belief," said the King.

Palestinian student arrested while giving interview for US citizenship

Washington (Agency). A Palestinian youth was arrested when he arrived for interview for US citizenship. The youth's name is said to be Mohsin Mahdawi, who has been living in the US for the last decade and has been a green card holder since 2015. He was arrested on Monday by agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement from the US Citizenship and Immigration Services office. Mahdawi has completed his studies at Columbia University and was about to start his master's degree in the upcoming session. He played an active role in peaceful demonstrations against the Gaza war. His lawyers allege that this arrest is political retaliation and he has been deliberately targeted. Mahdawi's lawyer Luna Droubi said, the Trump administration has detained Mohsin Mahdawi for raising his voice in support of the Palestinians. This is not only retaliatory, but also unconstitutional. Mahdawi's arrest comes at a time when his friend and classmate at Columbia University, Mahmoud Khalil, was also taken into custody a few days ago. Khalil was called a threat to national security for participating in the protests against the Gaza war.

There are many fruits in the world whose price is in lakhs

London (Agency). Do you know that there are some fruits in the world, whose price can shock you? These fruits are so expensive that buying them seems like a dream for a common man. First of all, let's talk about the Taiyo no Tamago mango, which is also known as 'Eggs of Sun'. This mango, grown in Japan, is half yellow and half red and can cost from Rs 1 to 2 lakh. Next comes Sembikiya Queen strawberries, also known as Nyohou strawberries, named after a famous fruit shop in Tokyo, Sembikiya, which is the oldest

fruit shop in Japan. Sembikiya Queen strawberries, whose specialty is that it can be stored for many days. A packing of 12 pieces costs around 20 to 25 thousand rupees. Yubari melon, also known as Yubari King, is a special type of melon grown in the Yubari city of Hokkaido Island, Japan, which is famous for its high quality and sweetness. Which can cost from 10 to 12 lakh rupees. It is considered one of the most expensive fruits in the world. Similarly, square watermelon is also produced in Japan, which



costs 50 to 60 thousand rupees. It is also used for decoration. If we talk about grapes, the name of

Ruby Roman grapes comes first. A premium quality bunch of these red grapes grown in Japan

can cost up to 6 to 7 lakh rupees. Ruby Roman is a type of table grape grown and sold entirely in Ishikawa Prefecture of Japan. It is red in color and is approximately the size of a ping-pong ball. The first Ruby Roman grape went on sale in August 2008 at a rate of 100,000 Japanese Yen per 700 gram bunch, or \$26 per grape. At the same time, Sekai Ichi apple is the most expensive and largest apple in the world, which is about 15 inches long and weighs up to 1 kilogram. Its price ranges from 1.5 to 2 thousand

rupees. Finally, let's talk about Buddha shaped pears, which are prepared in the shape of Buddha. The price of this unique pear grown in China ranges from 600 to 700 rupees. The prices of these fruits are definitely surprising, but their taste, shape and rarity make them special. It should be known that fruits are not only tasty, but are also considered very beneficial for health. Doctors often advise everyone from children to the elderly to eat fruits because they give energy to the body and help fight diseases.

Islamic fundamentalists occupy Britain's prisons

London (Agency). A large number of Islamic fundamentalist prisoners are lodged in Britain's high security prisons. Due to their increasing number, they are now becoming a cause of concern for the security agencies. Hashim Avedi, convicted of the 2017 Manchester Arena bomb blast, attacked three prison officers in Frankland prison along with his fellow prisoners on April 12. The Islamic fundamentalists carried out this attack with hot oil and sharp weapons. In which two prison officers were seriously injured. According to the report published in the London newspaper, Frankland prison is currently occupied by Islamic fundamentalist prisoners.



People coming out in the midst of a sandstorm in Qatar.

Now will the visa be canceled if anti-Semitic posts are made on social media in America?

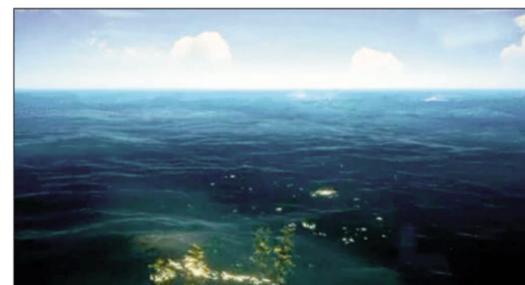
Washington (Agency). People posting content considered anti-Semitic in the US can now be denied visa or residency. If you post something on social media, the US will cancel your visa without warning. This has been confirmed by the US Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) itself. Social media can now influence visa-related decisions. DHS has said in a statement that there is no place for terrorist supporters in the US, and we are not obliged to allow them to come to the US or stay here. According to USCIS in a media report, social media activity will also be curbed in the name of anti-Semitic posts.

These include posts supporting terrorism, anti-Semitic terrorist organizations or other anti-Semitic activities when determining benefits. This policy comes into effect immediately and will apply to requests for student visas and permanent resident 'green cards' to stay in the United States. This official statement comes at a time when the Trump administration has canceled the visas of hundreds of international students inside the US in the last few weeks. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in March that he has canceled the visas of about 300 people and is doing so daily. Rubio said that non-US citizens do not have the same rights as Americans and it is at their discretion, not the judges, to issue or deny visas.

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Our oceans used to be green long ago: Study



Tokyo (Agency). A recent Japanese study has claimed that our oceans used to be green long ago. According to this research, this color change is linked to the chemical composition of water, the iron present in it and the development of early life. Scientists believe that this was the period when only unicellular organisms existed on Earth and oxygen in the atmosphere was almost negligible. This was also the time of formation of rocks called Banded Iron Formation, studied in geology, about 3.8 to 1.8 billion years ago. At that time, due to rain, iron from continental rocks dissolved and reached the oceans through rivers. Active volcanoes at the bottom of the sea were also a major source of iron. At the same time, the process of photosynthesis started, in which organisms started producing energy from sunlight. Initially this process took place without oxygen, but later oxygen started being produced from it. This

oxygen started reacting with the dissolved iron present in the sea and oxidizing it, due to which the color of the water gradually turned green. Scientists have seen a glimpse of green color in sea water near Iwo Jima Island near Japan even today. Along with the presence of Fe3 Plus (oxidized iron) in the water, blue-green algae have also been found here. These algae are actually descendants of those old bacteria that used to do photosynthesis with the help of iron. The study also revealed that if these algae are genetically modified and a pigment called 'PEB' is added, then they grow faster in green water. Computer simulation also revealed that as all the iron in the sea was destroyed due to oxidation, free oxygen started forming in the atmosphere which is essential for today's life. This research reminds us that nothing is permanent on earth, neither color, nor chemistry, nor the form of life.

Saif Ali Khan answers what Jewel Thief co-star Jaideep Ahlawat can learn from him: 'A bit of bullsh*t...'



After surprising his fans with his dance moves in the Jewel Thief song, Jaideep Ahlawat is promoting his upcoming film with full gusto. Jaideep is working with Saif Ali Khan in this film, and in a recent interview, the Paatal Lok actor said that he can learn a lot from Saif because of his vast experience in the movies. Saif, however, responded with a joke, after showering a bucket full of compliments for Jaideep. In a chat with Bollywood Hungama, Saif was asked about Kareena's experience with Jaideep when the two worked together in Jaane Jaan. Back then, Kareena had then said that she was "intimidated" whenever she worked with Jaideep as she was thoroughly impressed by him. Saif then proceeded to talk about his collaboration with Jaideep and said that the actor surprised him with his approach. Calling him a "talented co-star", Saif said that one tends to see actors resorting to similar ways of doing certain things but Jaideep always chose a different path. "The same thing you are doing and you see many actors do it, and you have done it but it's a trap. There's still a more intense way of doing it. There's still a more committed way of doing it, whatever it is," he said and recalled that during a scene, where Jaideep had to cut someone with a knife, he brought in an extra edge. "When I saw it on the page, I kind of imagined how it would be but when I saw how he did it, there was an extra 50 percent of energy and timing and at the same time, something creative and natural about how casually it was done. It was casual as well as lethal and strong. And I have seen people actually do that shot in a Hindi film that I have been in, couple of times actually, but never like this," he said. When Jaideep was asked about what he learnt from Saif, he humbly responded, "There's lots to learn from him. What do I have to offer to him? I have just started. He has so much experience with films." Saif interrupted Jaideep and shared with a laugh, "He can learn a bit of bullsh*t as well." Jaideep then continued, "When you see actors like him... You know the journey is such that he has been through so many characters.

When Shah Rukh Khan admitted his 'overconfidence' cost Farhan Akhtar Rs 2.5 cr in Don 2: 'SRK exchanged a look with Priyanka Chopra and...'

Shah Rukh Khan and Farhan Akhtar's Don and Don 2 enjoy a cult following. The films had it all – romance, drama, high-octane action sequences – and remain fan favourites to this day. Shah Rukh Khan brought his experience and charisma to the table, giving the iconic character of Don a distinct edge. However, it was this very confidence that ended up costing Farhan Rs 2.5 crore. British-Pakistani actor Alyy Khan, who had co-starred with Shah Rukh in Don 2, recalled the instance when Shah Rukh broke camera equipment worth Rs 2.5 crore just by missing a mark by a few moments. He recalled that during a car sequence in Berlin, he was sitting beside Shah Rukh,



who was very confident about his driving skills. Farhan, on the other hand, was hiding in the backseat of

the car so that the cameras wouldn't catch him. Alyy explained that during the scene, Priyanka Chopra was supposed to drive to them, when Shah Rukh would deliver his iconic line – 'Don ko pakadna mushkil hi nahi, naamunkin hai' – and then drive off. Alyy explained that Shah Rukh nailed the scene in the first shot. However, it was during the second shot that he messed it up. He told Dawn News, "They decided to attempt the shot again. Priyanka pulled over, exchanged a look with Shah Rukh, he delivered his line, and took off. But this time, a stunt car that was supposed to reverse and brake rammed into them because Shah Rukh missed the mark slightly."

Babil Khan says he is not used to Bollywood, shares people who trolled him for being nice to paps now copy him: 'I feel too much'

Babil Khan, who marked his acting debut with the film Qala in 2022, often describes himself as someone extremely shy. However, he doesn't shy away from living his life on his own terms, away from the pressure of the industry he belongs to. At the beginning of his career, Babil was often trolled for his expressive nature. He would often be trolled for gifting chocolates to paps, and greeting them with respect and love. Now, the actor says, "he lives his life on his terms and doesn't shy away from that." In an exclusive conversation with SCREEN, Babil said, "The people who trolled me for giving chocolates to paps are the same people who are now copying me. Now they all greet the paps, they

to suppress, I cannot really judge anybody. They are all simply trying to survive. It is very difficult to survive in this industry. It is very painful." Babil, who lives his life with "full emotions", said he is not used to the industry and simply lives his life his way. "I live my life the way I want to live it and nobody can stop me from doing that. I live with full emotions, I cry, I feel the hate, respond to the hate as well and I live my life. I am shy person but I don't shy away from living my life." He added, "I am not used to the industry. I am not thick skinned, I feel too much. But, I love the people in it. They are really nice people who know how to protect themselves. I really need to learn that from them." When asked if this is the reason why he doesn't attend parties or gets clicked by paps anymore, Babil said, "At the start of my career, I used to go to a lot of parties but that was also the age that played a role.



Babil Khan, who used to attend the many parties of Bollywood in the beginning of his career, now barely goes anywhere as he doesn't want to live in the same circle.

Ali Fazal, Sonali Bendre team up for untitled series on Ranga-Billa case



Actors Ali Fazal and Sonali Bendre are set to feature in a series based around the case of real-life criminals Ranga and Billa. Prosit Roy, who worked as a director on the critically-acclaimed series Paatal Lok, is helming the series. Fazal and Bendre have both started shooting for the untitled show in Delhi, a press release said. "The team has been researching the case in detail for months now. The show will focus on the events as they unfolded following the murder case. It's being treated with sensitivity and aims to show how deeply the case affected Delhi," the release said. In 1978, Ranga and Billa had kidnapped two siblings who had hitched a ride with them in the heart of Delhi for ransom. But when the criminals came to know that the brother-sister duo Geeta and Sanjay Chopra were the children of a naval officer, they panicked and killed them. Geeta was raped before she was killed. Kuljeet Singh alias Ranga Khus and Jasbir Singh alias Billa were awarded the death penalty and executed four years later.

Idea was to not go overboard with jingoistic angle: Emraan Hashmi on Ground Zero

Emraan Hashmi talks about his film, Ground Zero, and why the team was set on not going 'overboard with jingoistic elements' in the film.

Actor Emraan Hashmi says the idea behind his upcoming film Ground Zero, based on the heroism of a real-life BSF officer, was to tell an honest story without going overboard with jingoistic elements. The action-thriller, produced by Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's Excel Entertainment, chronicles the story of BSF officer Narendra Nath Dhar Dubey, who led the operation to track the mastermind behind the 2001 terrorist attacks on the Parliament and Akshardham Temple. "The whole idea from my first discussions of getting into a film like this was not to go overboard with the jingoistic angle. I think that looks a little forced and over the top. The audience, while watching the film, also feels a sense of being disconnected from the truth of the story," The actor, known for films such as Awarapan, Murder, Jannat, Once Upon a Time in Mumbai, The Dirty Picture, Shanghai, and Tiger 3, said they

wanted to stay true to the real-life story as much as possible. "We wanted to tell the story with the right elements of drama, entertainment and that truth and honesty keeping in mind what happened in 2001. Drama is something that if you just overdo it, it can just tip over," he added. Citing the example of the dialogue 'Prahar Hoga' from the film, the actor said while the drama element needs to have a certain "pitch" and "tonality", it must resonate with the audience. "I can bet my life that Mr. Dubey didn't get up on a truck and started yelling at his juniors, saying 'Prahar Hoga'. But, if that protocol would take place in an office or somewhere else, then that would be the most boring thing because if you have to heighten up the drama, you've got to whip it up. If that went into the jingoistic (zone), then it would look very fake." The 46-year-old actor said he met Dubey, whom he described as a humble individual, to get insight into his character as he didn't want it to be a "mimicry". "You're making a film that's representative of the world of the Border Security Force (BSF), you can't go wrong on that.



Kim Soo Hyun's fans launch global petition as cancellation calls grow: 'Even if mistakes were made...'

Kim Soo Hyun might have lost major brand deals, projects, and even friendships in the industry, but his loyal fans have made it clear, they're not going anywhere, even during the "tearful days." As backlash surrounding the actor continues to grow, with no major developments linking him to the death of late actress Kim Sae Ron, fans have launched a global petition defending him and calling out the "online witch-hunt." This move is being seen as a counter to the "Kim Soo Hyun Prevention Act", a separate petition filed on March 31 that

urged South Korean lawmakers to raise the age of consent and enforce stricter penalties for statutory rape, following allegations that the actor had been in a relationship with a minor. On April 12, an international fan account posted an emotional video of Kim from his Japan fan meeting. In the clip, he's seen smiling and waving to fans amid the backlash that began plaguing his career in March. The post carried messages of hope, loyalty, and a petition link that's now gone viral. "Even on tearful days, I'll keep supporting him with a firm heart," one fan wrote. "Believing in the truth of Kim Soo Hyun's journey, his fans will never leave."

Fans labelled the petition as their direct response to the recent controversy and slander, condemning, 'online public trial,' where they claimed how unverified rumours are spreading like wildfire, damaging Soo Hyun's reputation, invading his privacy, and fueling hate. "Even if mistakes were made, the widespread circulation of baseless accusations and defamatory videos constitutes a modern-day online public trial," it says. "It violates the presumption of innocence," an excerpt of the petition reads. Fans are demanding that people stop judging him before any legal outcome is clear. "There are fans all over the world who support Kim Soo Hyun. Don't worry and stay strong," supporters rallied behind him with encouraging messages. Meanwhile, others are clearly offended by this move, calling out his supporters and questioning where they were when Kim Sae Ron faced a public trial, which led her to take such drastic action at a young age over a DUI scandal. They pointed to the malicious comments and hate posts flooding her social media when she shared a photo with Kim Soo Hyun after Queen of Tears' success, a connection that the actor and his agency had initially denied but later acknowledged during a recent press conference, admitting they were briefly in a relationship.

Shilpa Shetty made over Rs 45 cr on her Rs 6 cr investment in baby care brand, continues to hold stake in billion dollar unicorn: 'I became rich'

Actor Shilpa Shetty, who was an early investor in baby product company Mamaearth, recently shared that she became an investor in the company almost eight years ago when the company was just valued at Rs 35 cr. The company is now known as a 'unicorn', which means that it is currently valued at over \$1 billion. Shilpa said that she believed in the passion of the founders and since they could not afford her

fees as a brand ambassador, she asked them to give her a stake in the business. In a chat with Femina India, Shilpa said that she met Varun and Ghazal Alagh eight years ago and recalled their initial meeting. "They came to me selling me the idea of these Mamaearth products for kids – mosquito patches and baby shampoos back in the day where I used to travel abroad to procure a good shampoo for my son," she said and added, "I understood the



perils of parents going to get products for their kids, who have sensitive skin." Shilpa said that Varun was very clear about making this the number one baby product brand and he, along with Ghazal, have achieved that. "I think, at that time, the business must have been worth like Rs 35 cr. I bought into it because they couldn't afford a brand ambassador. I said give me a stake, they gave it to me. I became rich. It became a unicorn company," she said. In 2023, when Mamaearth went for its IPO, it was announced that Shilpa invested Rs 6.7 cr in the company back in 2018 and received 16 lakh shares in the company. Even in 2023, Shilpa's investment was worth over Rs 39 cr, as per Mint. In 2024, during a chat on 'Scaling startups through brand ambassadors', Mint reported that Shilpa continued to hold 2.3 lakh shares in the company. When the company went public in

2023, Shilpa offloaded 13.93 lakh shares for a total of Rs 45.13 crore. On April 17, the stock price of Honasa Consumer Ltd, parent company of Mamaearth, is valued at around Rs 236, making Shilpa's current investment worth Rs 5.42 cr. Shilpa shared that even before she started investing in companies, she was always very mindful of the fact that the products that she endorses are in sync with her personal belief system.

Speculations intensify over Naqvi not attending ICC meeting



Lahore (Agency). Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief Mohsin Naqvi is said to be angry with the ICC. According to a report, this is the reason why Naqvi did not attend the ICC's annual quarterly meeting. He stayed away citing personal work. The reason for his displeasure is believed to be not being invited to the prize money ceremony after the final of the Champions Trophy 2025. This is believed to be the reason for his displeasure. At the same time, a PCB official said that Mohsin Naqvi could not go due to work in the country and the board's CEO Sumer Ahmed attended the ICC meetings. Since the meetings ended, the PCB has maintained silence on this matter. It is believed that it has expressed symbolic protest to the ICC for not having a PCB representative on the stage for the prize distribution ceremony of the Champions Trophy final in Dubai. Earlier, after the Champions Trophy final on March 19, PCB had written several letters to ICC seeking clarification as to why none of its representatives were present on the stage despite being the host of the tournament.



Poland's Iga Swiatek competes in the Round of 16 match in Germany.

Olympic cricket matches will be held in Pomona, California: Shah

Dubai (Agency). Cricket is going to return after 128 years in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. Preparations have already started for the cricket matches to be held in the Olympics. For this, the city of Pomona in South California is being prepared. Cricket matches will be held here. The International Cricket Council (ICC) has said this. Six teams each will participate in the men's and women's categories. It will be organized at the Fairgrounds



in Pomona. ICC Chairman Jay Shah said, 'We welcome the announcement of the venue of cricket in Los Angeles 2028 as it will be an important step towards preparing for the return of our sport to the Olympics. He said, 'Cricket is a very popular sport and the Olympics will give it a great opportunity to expand. The thrill of the T20 format will attract new audiences to Olympic cricket. It is worth noting that earlier cricket matches were held in the 1900 Paris Olympic Games. It was included in the Los Angeles Olympic program after the 141st session of the IOC in Mumbai in October 2023.

30 to 40 runs in the lower order are also like a half-century: Jitesh

New Delhi (Agency). Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) wicketkeeper batsman Jitesh Sharma said that batting in the lower order is not easy. According to Jitesh, the job of a finisher is very important. In this, it is important to make the team win. Therefore, if an innings of 30 to 40 runs played as a finisher helps the team win, then it is similar to a half-century and a century. Jitesh is often coming at number six in IPL 2025. He played an important role in the victory against Mumbai Indians a few days ago by scoring 40 runs in 19 balls. He said in the

latest episode of RCB Bold Diaries, 'Now everyone is a finisher. But batting at



number six or seven is not easy because ever since I have been playing the role of a finisher, I have not scored a

half-century. Earlier I used to score half-centuries and centuries. He said, 'It was scored a half-century. 30 runs, 20 balls, 40 runs are important. He said, 'Now these scores are like fifty. If you are scoring 60 or 70 runs in 30 balls, then it is like a century. If the team is winning, then this makes me happy. Jitesh said that being a wicketkeeper helps him understand the pitch and the opposing batsman better. He said, 'Your mind gets tired. The advantage is that you can control the game from there. You get to know what your team's bowlers can do on this wicket. You can also make an estimate while watching the batsmen of the other team

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This is why Narine does not bowl in the nets before IPL: Bisla

Chandigarh (Agency). Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) bowler Sunil Narine does not bowl in the nets before IPL matches. On the other hand, usually all bowlers practice in the nets to get rhythm before the match. Narine bowls well in the match even without net practice. In the match against Punjab Kings, Narine dismissed 2 players giving only 14 runs in 3 overs. Former KKR player Manvinder Bisla has said that Narine has no interest in bowling in the nets. One reason for this is that he does not want the batsmen to read his bowling in advance because the batsmen included in the team today can also play for another team after a few years. According to Bisla, the secret of Narine's success is also not bowling in the nets. Bisla used to play as a wicketkeeper in KKR. He had to ask Narine to bowl 12-13 balls to him so that he could understand the variations in his bowling because he had to catch and stump during wicketkeeping. After this, Narine bowled a few balls to Bisla which helped him understand the variations in



Narine's bowling.

KKR has won three trophies in IPL. During this time, Narine has played an important role in the team's victory. Narine has also been the Most Valuable Player of the Season three times in IPL. KKR won the title last season. Even then,

Narine had performed well. At that time, Narine had scored 488 runs at a strike rate of above 180. Along with this, he had taken 17 wickets at an economy rate of 6.69. In this season too, he has taken 7 wickets in 6 matches along with 130 runs at a strike rate of 190.

PSL is no match for IPL: Billings



Lahore (Agency). While IPL is in full swing in India these days, on the other hand, Super League (PSL) is being played in Pakistan. Although there is no competition between IPL and PSL, still both are being compared. A video has come regarding this. In this, England's Sam Billings, who is participating in Pakistan Super League,

says that PSL is no match for IPL.

Billings, who is playing for Lahore Qalandars, said that IPL cannot be compared to PSL. He also said that PSL is no match for IPL's glamour. Why only PSL? No T20 league in the world comes in the category of IPL. Billings said that he wanted him to say something stupid,

however, he stuck to his stance and called IPL better than any other T20 league in the world. Billings told the reporter, 'You want me to say something stupid? It is difficult to ignore IPL as the best competition in the world, it is very clear, every other competition is behind it.' By the way, this is not the first time that a Pak reporter has asked about IPL. Recently a Pakistani reporter had asked Karachi Kings captain David Warner about the hatred he received from Indian fans for playing PSL after not being sold in IPL. In response to which Warner had said, 'I have heard this for the first time, there is nothing of this kind. I just want to play cricket.'

BCCI has removed three members of the support staff of the Indian team

Mumbai (Agency). The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has removed three members of the support staff of the Indian team's head coach Gautam Gambhir. According to a report, there were talks of removing these members since the Australia tour. The reason for this is said to be the poor performance of the team in the Australia tour as well as



the dressing room matters coming out. The board was

most upset about how the confidential matters of the team were coming out. According to the information received, BCCI has removed assistant coach Abhishek Nair. Nair had joined the Indian team only 8 months ago. Apart from this, fielding coach T Dilip and trainer Soham Desai have also been removed. Both of them were associated with the Indian team for the last three years.

Starc's yorker bowling changed the match

New Delhi (Agency). Delhi Capitals' fast bowler Mitchell Starc surprised everyone by bowling all 12 yorkers in 12 balls in the match against Rajasthan Royals in IPL. Starc also played an important role in Delhi's victory in this match. This fast bowler turned the match around with his performance. He destroyed Rajasthan Royals with his bowling in the last overs. Starc bowled such accurate yorkers against the Royals that his batsmen did not get any opportunity to hit a shot, whereas in this match the Royals team came close to victory. He needed only nine runs to win in the last over, but Starc pacer gave only eight runs, due to which the match reached the super over. Shimron Hetmyer scored 06 and Riyan Parag scored 04 runs for the Royals in the super over. Mitchell Starc bowled six yorkers in this over, in which Hetmyer hit one four and Parag hit one but Parag was run out on a free hit. Yashasvi Jaiswal could not even open his account. In such a situation, Delhi had to score 12 runs to win. Lokesh Rahul scored unbeaten 07 runs and Tristan Stubbs scored unbeaten 06 runs for Delhi. Sandeep Sharma was bowling for the Royals. Rahul took two runs on the first ball and then hit a four on the next ball. Stubbs hit a six on the fourth ball to give the team victory.

Shreyas gave a befitting reply to KKR management with his performance



Mumbai (Agency). Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) has not performed well in this season of IPL. In such a situation, team owner Shahrukh Khan and CEO Venky Mysore and management must be regretting not retaining Shreyas Iyer as captain. KKR won the title last time under Shreyas' captaincy. Shreyas, on the other hand, has given a befitting reply to his neglect by defeating his old franchise KKR this season. After this match, Shreyas also met KKR's CEO Venky Mysore. Sunil Narine was also present with Iyer at that time. This was Shreyas Iyer's first match against his old team after separating from KKR. In this, Iyer, with his brilliant captaincy, led his team to victory even after scoring only 111 runs. Shreyas had put pressure on KKR by

using the bowlers correctly as well as setting an aggressive field. Shreyas was made the captain by KKR in the 2022 mega auction. The team finished seventh in the year 2022. In 2023, he was out of the entire season due to injury. When he returned in 2024, the franchise again handed him the captaincy and he led his team to win the IPL trophy after more than a decade. Despite such a huge success, KKR did not retain him before the mega auction last October, which surprised everyone. Venky later revealed that Iyer was the first choice in his retention list but the two parted ways due to lack of mutual agreement. After this, Shreyas was added to the Punjab Kings in the auction for Rs 26.75 crore.

Neeraj Chopra begins 2025 season with 84.52m throw in South Africa

Delhi (Agency). Two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra started his season with a throw of 84.52m at a low-key, invitational event in South Africa. Chopra ended on top of the six thrower field. While little details are available of the other throws Neeraj had on the night, this marks Neeraj's first competition in 2025. Neeraj's throw came at the Potch Invitational Meet, which was being held at the McArthur Stadium in South Africa's Potchefstroom. Behind Neeraj was 25-year-old South Africa's Douw

Smit, who recorded a best throw of 82.44m, and Duncan Robertson, who touched 71.22m. Neeraj's throw at Potchefstroom is India's best throw in 2025: the World Athletics toplist for 2025 has an 84.39m effort from Sachin Yadav and an 80.47m heave from Rohit Yadav listed as India's best throws so far in 2025. The track and field star will be in action at the Diamond League in Doha in exactly a month's time. "With just one month to go for the Doha Diamond League, Neeraj Chopra kickstarts his season in style

— winning the Potch Invitational Meet in South Africa with a solid throw of

competing this season under a new coach after he and Dr Klaus Bartonietz parted



84.52m! The champion's chase begins," posted Inspire Institute of Sport on their social media handles. The 27-year-old is

ways. Neeraj and Bartonietz had worked together to claim a gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics and a silver at the Paris Olympics.

The duo had also combined to win multiple Asian Games, Commonwealth Games and World Athletics Championships medals. Neeraj will be working with javelin legend Jan Zelezny for the 2025 season. Zelezny, who currently holds the world record for the farthest javelin throw in history, had trained both the Czech Republic javelin throwers who finished behind Neeraj on the podium at the Tokyo Olympics. This season, Neeraj will be hoping to better his personal best throw of 89.94m and finally breach the 90m mark.

'This could be Delhi Capitals' breakthrough season': Ajay Jadeja backs DC to finally come good

Delhi (Agency). On a thrilling night that saw the first Super Over of this season's IPL, Delhi Capitals won in dramatic fashion. But beyond the fireworks, it was their consistency that caught the eye of JioHotstar expert Ajay Jadeja, who believes the team is building towards something special. "This could be their year," Jadeja said. "They haven't even used all their resources yet. No one has fully peaked, and that's a positive. The ceiling is still ahead. If

they've come this far without individual brilliance, the only way is up. Sure, there's always risk, but they're looking like a more complete unit this year. Once you get into the knockouts, it's all about delivering on the day, but their consistency so far gives me hope that this could be their breakthrough season." The Capitals held their nerve in the Super Over, thanks to a calm and calculated approach from KL Rahul and Tristan Stubbs. Jadeja was all

praise for the duo's composure.

presence. Even after missing the first ball, he was unfazed.



"We always knew it would be Sandeep Sharma for Royals. KL brought such a calming

Stubbs was waiting for that short one, and they timed everything just right. With

only a few runs to defend, you can't afford mistakes, and they didn't make any." Former South Africa wicketkeeper Mark Boucher, who was also on the panel, dissected Rajasthan's puzzling Super Over strategy, saying they crumbled. "(Shimron) Hetmyer and (Riyan) Parag didn't make much of a difference. The biggest surprise was not seeing Yashasvi Jaiswal. Add a no-ball first up, then a run-out. It's just pressure.

Big blow to Royals, Samson reprimanded after defeat

Mumbai (Agency). Rajasthan Royals team has suffered a big blow in the IPL match. Along with the defeat in the match against Delhi Capitals, its captain Sanju Samson has been given a strict warning by the umpires for violating the code of conduct. The Royals team lost this match in the super over. Jofra Archer was bowling the super over. At the same time, Ashutosh Sharma was batting. Archer bowled a slow bouncer on the last ball. The umpire immediately declared it wide. After this, the umpire approached Royals captain Sanju Samson and reprimanded him for standing on the boundary of the thirty-yard circle. Samson has also given his answer to the umpire on this matter. Regarding the same, commentator Graeme Swann said that you cannot do this. You should be in a place from where you can catch the ball. You cannot go and stand on the circle like this. Even if Jofra Archer is bowling.

Lack of awareness... TB eradication campaign fails

TB is moving towards Madhya Pradesh like death!

Bhopal (Agency): Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave the slogan of TB will lose, country will win on 14 March 2018 and took a pledge to end a serious disease like TB from the country. The Prime Minister had set a deadline of 2025 for this. To fulfill this resolution, TB (Tuberculosis) eradication program is being run across the country. Under this campaign, TB vaccine is being administered to adults identified in 6 different categories. Sehore district of Madhya Pradesh seems to be far away from this campaign. In all these days, the Health Department has achieved only 10 percent vaccination target in the district. In such a situation, the thing to think about is how the resolution of TB free India can be fulfilled in this way. Many reasons are being given for the TB eradication campaign being a flop in the state. Firstly, the campaign was not promoted as vigorously as many other schemes or campaigns are. The campaign did not get support even at the administrative level. Officials and employees did not get themselves vaccinated, which could set an example for others. Another big reason for this is believed to be that the

publicized news of the side effects of the corona vaccine also created apprehension in the minds of the people about this vaccine. At the same time, many people say that the Anganwadi or health worker did not give any information to anyone regarding the vaccine. Apart from the vaccination campaign, an action plan for TB free Sehore in 100 days was prepared in the district. This campaign was started from January 2025. The Health Department claims to have screened more than 2 lakh people across the district, conducted TB tests, X-rays. But after the failure of the TB vaccination program, it is being alleged that these campaigns are being run only on paper. It can be said that due to the indifference of the departmental employees and lack of publicity, the campaign is not showing any significance. Due to which the risk of a fatal disease like TB still remains. Let us tell you that under the TB eradication program, BCG vaccines are given to people above 18 years of age. It includes 6 categories of people. The first stage is detection, under which screening and testing is done to accurately detect the

disease. The second category is treatment. Under this, providing medicines to the patient for treatment. The third category is prevention, financial and other necessary services. In the last 1 year, the number of TB patients has increased in 10 districts of the state.



under which preventive measures are taken to prevent the spread of TB, such as medicines for people in contact with TB patients. The fourth category is construction. It includes providing information about TB, reducing stigma related to TB, and encouraging community participation. The 5th category includes making proper strategies to completely eradicate TB and taking every necessary measure like treatment for it. The sixth and last category is support. In this, TB patients are taken care of during their illness. Apart from this, they are provided with nutrition,

This also includes the capital Bhopal. Where about 2 thousand TB patients have increased in 2024 as compared to 2023. Apart from this, the number of TB patients has increased in Indore, Agar Malwa, Barwani, Bhind, Burhanpur, Damoh, Datia, Dewas and Dhar districts in 2024 as compared to 2023. At the same time, if we talk about the whole state, the number of patients has decreased. In the year 2024, the total number of TB patients in MP was recorded as 1 lakh 80 thousand 290, while in 2023 it was 1 lakh 82 thousand 290. At the same time, in

2022, the number of TB patients in Madhya Pradesh was recorded as 1 lakh 85 thousand 904. Madhya Pradesh ranks third in the country in terms of deaths due to TB. Till October last year, 5,152 patients had died due to TB in the state. 100-day Ni-Kshay Abhiyan was run in 347 districts of the country. Out of this, 23 districts of Madhya Pradesh were also included. While launching this campaign in Narmadapuram on 7 December 2024, Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav had said that under the Ni-Kshay Mitra initiative in the state, we are providing every possible help to TB patients by providing nutritional support. In this we provide supplementary food basket to TB patients every month, so that their body can get the necessary strength to fight the disease. Let us tell you that there has been a decline of 17.7 percent in TB patients in India from 2015 to 2023; this rate is more than double the global decline of 8.3 percent. In 2015, the mortality rate due to TB was 28 per 1 lakh population, which has come down to 22 in the year 2023. The World Health Organization has set the target of 2030 to eradicate TB completely.

Bison will be settled in Nauradehi Tiger Reserve



Bhopal (Agency): There are plenty of grasslands in Veerangana Rani Durgavati (Nauradehi) Tiger Reserve, the largest tiger reserve of Madhya Pradesh. Due to the thick grass found here, there is a plan to settle Bison i.e. Indian Gaur here. Regarding this, a team of experts from the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun has come to Nauradehi, which is exploring the possibilities of bison here. Experts say that the possibilities of settling bison here are quite good. Bison works as a biomass manager, which is very important for the forest. Nauradehi Tiger Reserve is spread over 3 districts Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur. Its total area is 2339 square kilometers. In which 1414 square kilometers is the core area and 925.12 km is the buffer area. There are large grasslands in this vast forest area and their number is increasing. Because in the villages which are being displaced, grasslands are being developed by the forest management in place of agriculture. Bison is a large herbivorous animal, so the place where there are large grasslands is the favorite place of bison. The thick grass found in the grasslands is their favorite food.

Grass is the main diet of bison

Experts say that bison is a large herbivorous animal, which mainly depends on grass. It is a cattle animal, so its diet is also almost like that of cattle. Its favorite food is thick grass or course grass. Apart from this, they also eat bushes and branches of trees with great fondness. Bison is very important for the ecosystem of grasslands. Because it prevents overgrowth of large and thick grass by grazing it. Therefore, due to the large grasslands in Nauradehi Tiger Reserve, it is being considered suitable for settling bison. Deputy Director of Nauradehi Tiger Reserve, Dr. AA Ansari, says that Nauradehi Tiger Reserve is a very large protected area. There are large grasslands here. There is also thick grass, which we also call course grass. There is no course grazer species here. It is considered suitable for settling bison. Keeping this in mind, the state government has decided to conduct a survey. Experts from the Wildlife Institute of India are conducting a survey on the possibilities of bison's habitat. After this survey, experts will give their opinion and on the basis of that opinion, a decision will be taken to settle bison here.

Possibilities are being explored to settle Indian Gaur in large grasslands

BRIEF NEWS

Final hearing against Ansal brothers in Delhi High Court from August 1

Delhi (Agency): The Delhi High Court has fixed August 1 as the date for final arguments on the petitions filed against the sentence of real estate businessmen Sushil and Gopal Ansal in the case of tampering with evidence related to the Uphaar Cinema fire. Justice Girish Kathpalia of the Delhi High Court said that the case will be heard daily from that day till the arguments are completed. This case is related to the horrific fire in Uphaar Cinema on June 13, 1997, in which 59 people died tragically. After this tragedy, a separate case of tampering with evidence was registered, in which four people including the Ansal brothers were convicted. The magistrate court had sentenced the Ansal brothers to seven years' imprisonment on November 8, 2021, but the district court reduced this sentence on July 19, 2022 and released them on the basis of the sentence already served. However, the court maintained the fine of Rs 2.25 crore on Ansal brothers and Rs 3 lakh on other convicts Dinesh Chandra Sharma and P.P. Batra. Prosecution lawyer Krishnan told the court that the appellate court has reduced the sentence on the basis of distorted arguments, which is against the spirit of justice. At the same time, Vikas Pahwa, the lawyer of Uphaar Tragedy Victims Association (AVUT), argued that tampering with evidence is an attack on the justice system. And it cannot be taken lightly. The charge sheet states that the documents that were tampered with include police memos, fire service records, proceedings of the meetings of the Managing Director and four bank cheques. Actually, this fire broke out in Uphaar Cinema in South Delhi on June 13, 1997 during the screening of the Hindi film Border, in which 59 people lost their lives. After this incident, legal action was taken against the cinema owners, Ansal brothers.

The body of a minor maid was found hanging from the bathroom shower

Delhi (Agency): Sensation has spread after the body of a minor domestic help was found inside a house in Shantikunj of Vasant Kunj police station area of South Delhi. It was told that the body of the minor domestic help was found hanging from the bathroom shower. On the other hand, on getting information about the incident, the victim's family reached the spot and alleged that their daughter has been murdered. On receiving information about the incident, the police reached the spot and started investigating the case. Right now the police is investigating. After the investigation, the cause of the minor's death will be revealed. At present, the investigation of the case is going on.

Fire breaks out in residential building in Shaheen Bagh area of Delhi

Delhi (Agency): A massive fire broke out in a residential building in Shaheen Bagh area on Thursday morning. On receiving the information, eight fire brigade vehicles reached the spot to control the fire. The fire department team controlled the fire after a lot of hard work. According to the fire department, household items and 3 to 4 vehicles parked in the parking lot of the building were burnt due to the fire. There is no report of any casualty in the incident. The reason for the fire has not been ascertained yet. Earlier, an incident of fire broke out in the forest near Shaheen Bagh area on April 6, i.e. Sunday evening.

Strong sunlight is causing many diseases... Increase in patients in hospitals

Increase in temperature is affecting the neurotransmitters of the brain

Bhopal (Agency): After the change in the mood of the weather, people's problems have increased due to strong sunlight and humid heat. Due to the weather, children and the elderly are falling prey to diseases the most. This has increased the outbreak of seasonal diseases. This is the reason why the number of patients in hospitals is continuously increasing. In which most of the patients include patients of cold, cough, fever, stomach ache, body ache, diarrhea, skin disease, heart and other diseases. Not only this, the sun is not only scorching, it is also stealing the power to think and understand. The continuous increase in

temperature is affecting the neurotransmitters of the brain, due to which mania cases of bipolar disorder are



coming up rapidly. The situation is that such cases in the OPD of the psychiatry department of Hamidia Hospital have increased by 15 percent in the month of April. According to experts,

high temperature affects neurotransmitters like dopamine and serotonin in the brain. Due to which the

cases of mania phase of bipolar disorder increase. In these patients, loud speaking, lack of sleep and weak decision making ability are seen as the main symptoms.

Bipolar disorder has a direct connection with sunlight

Bipolar disorder is a mental health condition. In which there is extreme fluctuation in the mood of the person. It is of two types. The first of which is mania. In this, the person feels more enthusiasm and energy. This happens when the person is more exposed to bright sunlight. In which if treatment is not taken on time or precautions are not taken, then it can take the form of acute mania. At the same time, when there is less sunlight in the rain or winter, then the cases of its second form depression increase. Which includes episodes of sadness and lack of energy.

Bipolar disorder has a direct connection with sunlight

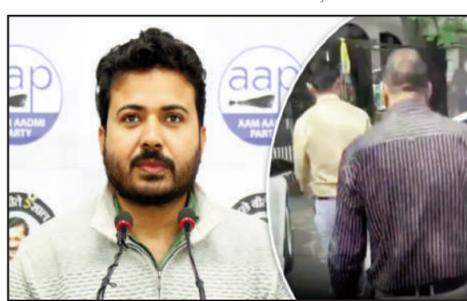
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CBI raids the house of former AAP MLA Durgesh

Delhi (Agency): Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Atishi expressed her displeasure over this raid and said that as soon as Aam Aadmi Party started preparing for Gujarat elections, CBI reached the house of Gujarat co-in-charge Durgesh Pathak. Only AAP can challenge BJP in Gujarat and this raid is showing their nervousness. CBI raided the house of senior Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and party's Gujarat co-in-charge Durgesh Pathak. CBI had registered a case in this matter yesterday. He is facing a case related to foreign funding (FCRA). AAP targeted Bharatiya Janata Party over the CBI raid saying that BJP's dirty game has started again. It is adopting every trick to finish AAP. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Thursday searched the premises of former AAP MLA Durgesh Pathak in connection with alleged violation of foreign funding rules. After conducting raids for about 3 hours, the CBI team has left the house. Earlier, officials said that the investigating agency has registered a case against them

for alleged violation of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act. Former Delhi Chief Minister and Leader of



Opposition in the Assembly Atishi expressed her displeasure over this raid and

said that as soon as Aam Aadmi Party started preparing for Gujarat elections, it raided the house

and this raid is showing their nervousness. In all these years, BJP did not understand that we are not going to be scared of their threats. Similarly, Rajya Sabha MP and Aam Aadmi Party leader Sanjay Singh posted on social media platform X and said that BJP's dirty game has started again. CBI team has reached the house of Gujarat co-in-charge Durgesh Pathak. He further said that Modi government has tried every trick to finish Aam Aadmi Party, but still they are not getting peace. BJP's condition in Gujarat is bad, as soon as Durgesh Pathak was made the co-in-charge of Gujarat, CBI

Sanjay Singh got angry when CBI reached the house of AAP leader Durgesh Pathak

Delhi (Agency): CBI has raided the house of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Durgesh Pathak, due to which AAP leaders are furious. In this sequence, Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh has attacked BJP through a press conference. Sanjay Singh has claimed that the dirty game of BJP and Modi government has started again. In fact, AAP MP Sanjay Singh said in the press conference that every possible effort was made to stop AAP earlier also. Our

biggest leader (Arvind Kejriwal) was put in jail, raids were conducted in Punjab and Delhi. Today again a similar nefarious attempt has been made by BJP. Sanjay Singh further said, PM Modi has sent CBI to the house of Aam Aadmi Party's PAC member and Gujarat co-in-charge Durgesh Pathak. This is because Arvind Kejriwal sent them to Gujarat to force the organization. AAP had got 14 percent votes in Gujarat.

Delhi Police's big action against drug smuggling



Delhi (Agency): Delhi Police conducted a big and impressive operation against drug smugglers, in which 620 grams of heroin was recovered. This heroin was promoting the drug business all over Delhi and its market value is estimated to be around Rs 1.25 crore. In this action, five notorious smugglers have been arrested, who were involved in the drug business for a long time. In this operation, led by Inspector Ashok Kumar of Anti-Narcotics Cell, the police raided three different places. During these raids, the police recovered a large consignment of heroin from the smugglers, which was to be supplied in various areas. The arrest of these smugglers has also exposed a large interstate drug smuggling network. Police said that these smugglers had contacts with Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and other parts of Delhi and they were constantly transporting the drug material to Delhi and its surrounding areas through new routes. Many of the arrested smugglers also have criminal history. Sahibul, a resident of Swami Shradhdhanand Colony, has been involved in the drug trade earlier too. His three brothers are in judicial custody earlier on murder charges. According to the police, the gang of these smugglers was quite organized and had been smuggling heroin in Delhi for a long time.