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Drunk motorist attempts to immolate himself after being caught in Shamshabad

the Tondupally toll plaza in Shamshabad on city outskirts on Tuesday night.

The man, identified as Shiva Kumar from Mailardevpally who has a previous criminal record, was riding a motorcycle and tested positive for alcohol during the special drive against drunken driving by the traffic cops. He had recorded a 157 BAC. Police said Shiva was instructed to arrange somebody to drive him back to home. However, he picked up an argument with the traffic cops and left, only to return later and set himself on fire.

Cyberabad Police busts rave party in Gachibowli guest house

Hyderabad: The Cyberabad police raided a guest house in Gachibowli on the city outskirts and busted a rave party in the early hours on Wednesday. Police have taken 18 people including women and the organisers from the spot.It was found that they were playing cards, placing bets using money and consuming liquor and drugs.A case was booked and is being probed.

Telangana Police Donates Rs 11,06,83,571 to CM Relief Fund for Flood Victims



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Telangana Police Department has donated Rs 11,06,83,571 to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to support those affected by the recent floods. The donation, comprising one day's salary from police personnel, was handed over during the SI and ASI passing out parade at the Police Academy. The cheque was presented to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy by Home Secretary Ravi Gupta, DGP Jitender, Intelligence Chief B. Shivadhar Reddy, and representatives of the Police Officers' Association.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy lauded the police department for their timely and compassionate gesture in stepping forward to assist flood victims, highlighting the department's commitment to public welfare beyond

Telangana officials brief Central team on flood damage



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Hyderabad: A six-member Central team, which arrived in Telangana on Wednesday to visit flood-affected districts, was briefed by the state government on the extensive damage caused in many parts of the state. The team, led by Col Keerti Pratap Singh, Joint Secretary, Operation and Communications, in the Union Home Ministry, met Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari at the Secretariat. She briefed the visiting central team about the extensive damage caused in most parts of the state due to the unprecedented rainfall that occurred between August 31 and September 3. The Chief Secretary informed that even though the weather alert was received at very short notice, the administration was on high alert, and swift action was taken by the state government which minimised the loss of human life. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was reviewing the situation regularly and the Deputy Chief Minister, along with two other Ministers, reached Khammam weathering the rains to monitor the relief and rescue operations.

Female intern at Hyderabad's Gandhi Hospital attacked

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Hyderabad: A female intern at the casualty wing of the Gandhi Hospital was reportedly attacked by an intoxicated patient on Wednesday.

The patient, who was brought to the hospital's casualty for treatment by a relative, without any provocation grabbed the intern while she was attending to another patient and attacked her.

Fellow medicos and senior doctors rushed to the rescue of the intern and quickly subdued the attacker. The sudden assault on the female intern at Gandhi Hospital, in the backdrop of the recent strike by medicos demanding security following the death of the trainee doctor in Kolkata, has shocked the community of medicos.

'We promptly reported the incident to our Superintendent, who assured that both a police and an institutional FIR will be filed without delay to address the situation appropriately.

The Gandhi Junior Doctors Association (JUDA) strongly condemns this assault and calls for swift and decisive action to ensure the safety and security of all medical staff and interns. The association demands a thorough investigation into the incident and measures to prevent such occurrences in the future," the members of Gandhi Junior Doctors Association (JUDA) said.

Pawan Kalyan donates Rs 1 Cr to Telangana CM's Relief Fund for flood victims

GNS News Agency

Hyderabad: Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan met Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at the latter's residence here on Wednesday and handed over a cheque of Rs 1 crore towards the Chief Minister's Relief Fund for the floodaffected.Actor-politician on September 4 announced a huge donation of Rs 6 crore for the flood-affected Telugu states.

He announced a donation of Rs 1 crore each to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF). The Jana Sena leader also announced an additional Rs 4 crore for the relief works in 400 villages in Andhra Pradesh.Both the leaders



are understood to have discussed inter-state relations and other issues during the meeting.

This was the first meeting between the two after Pawan Kalyan assumed office as the Deputy Chief Minister in June following the landslide victory of the TDP-Jana Sena-BJP alliance in the Andhra

elections. This was the first meeting between the two leaders after Revanth Reddy became the Chief Minister in December last year. However, both the leaders had wished each other. After Revanth Reddy was sworn in as the Chief Minister, Pawan Kalyan stated that he had a personal friendship with Revanth Reddy.

that Revanth Reddy would take Telangana state ahead on the development path by fulfilling the aspirations of the Telangana people.Revanth Reddy had also wished Pawan Kalyan after the latter was sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister on June 12. Pawan Kalyan had not attended the talks be-

tween the two state governments in Hyderabad in July.Chief Revanth Reddy and N. Chandrababu Naidu had led their respective states in the talks to resolve postbifurcation issues.Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and some ministers from Andhra Pradesh also attended the July 6

KTR demands probe into Valmiki scam funds in Telangana polls

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Hyderabad: With the Enforcement Directorate filing its chargesheet in the infamous Valmiki scam in neighbouring Karnataka, BRS working president KT Rama Rao reiterated that the Congress misused the funds from Karnataka to finance its Lok Sabha election campaign in Telangana. He demanded for an indepth probe into the multi crore scam and stringent punishment for those involved. Pointing to the recent chargesheet filed by the ED which indicated diversion of the Valmiki scam funds to Telangana, Rama Rao said the Congress indulged in brazen misuse of public funds. The ED had confirmed the involvement of Congress leader and former Karnataka minister B Nagendra as the mastermind behind the Valmiki scam.

using funds meant for the welfare of tribals in their election campaign. This is not just unethical, but also a criminal act," he said. The scam allegedly involved the diversion of Rs 187 crore from the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited. These funds were allegedly funneled through Nagendra and used by the Telangana Congress to bolster their election efforts. "The ED has laid bare the truth we have been saying all along - Congress leaders have shamelessly siphoned off funds meant for tribal welfare and used them for their political gains," Rama Rao said, adding that Satyanarayana Verma, the prime accused in the scam and a Hyderabad-based builder, had close ties to two prominent Congress leaders in Telangana, raising suspicions about their involvement in the illicit activities.

The BRS working president appealed to the investigating agencies to thoroughly probe the matter and ensure that all those involved were brought to justice. "It's beyond dispute that several Congress leaders are implicated in this scam. The investigating agencies must reveal the full extent of this conspiracy and punish the cul-



prits severely," he urged.Rama Rao aso hinted at another Congress scam in the making in Telangana amid reports that the Congress government in Telangana was joining hands with Dubai-based Emaar builders to develop 2,000 acres in Mucherla village of Rangareddy district, which is being promoted as the Fourth City by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. The company reportedly agreed to come on board for the proposed project with a condition that the government would help it get rid of the decade-long 'Boulder Hills Project' case. He hinted at a possible connection between the deal and the decade-long controversy surrounding the Boulder Hills Project, a collaboration between the then Congress government and Emaar MGF. "Telangana is watching you, Scamgress. This seems like another scam in the making from another Congress administration," he posted on X.

Delhi court extends judicial custody of CM Kejriwal till September 25



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

New Delhi: A court here on Wednesday extended till September 25 the judicial custody of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in connection with the alleged liquor policy scam.CM Kejriwal was produced before the Rouse Avenue Court through video conferencing from Tihar Jail upon the expiry of previously granted judicial custody.In a brief hearing, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) assured the court that it would supply the soft copy of the charge sheet to the accused and would provide the hard copy within 3-4 days. Taking cognisance of the charge sheet filed by the CBI, Special Judge Kaveri Baweja of the Rouse Avenue Court, last week, issued a production warrant for CM Kejriwal on September 11. Earlier, the CBI had filed its supplementary charge sheet before a court here against the Delhi CM and other accused persons in the corruption case linked to the alleged excise policy scam. The Supreme Court is yet to pronounce its verdict on CM Kejriwal's plea challenging his arrest by CBI and seeking bail in the corruption case.

On September 5, a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan reserved its decision after hearing the oral arguments advanced by senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, representing the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supremo, and Additional Solicitor General (ASG) S.V. Raju, who appeared on behalf of the CBI. During the hearing, Singhvi contended that the CBI did not arrest CM Kejriwal for two years but made an "insurance arrest in a hurry" to prevent his release in the money laundering case. Singhvi added that Kejriwal, a constitutional functionary holding the position of Delhi Chief Minister, satisfied the triple test for grant of bail. "He is not a flight risk, he will turn up to answer the questions of the investigative agency, and cannot tamper with documents, running into lakhs of pages, and digital evidence after two years," he submitted.

On the other hand, the central agency apprehended that the release of CM Kejriwal would turn many witnesses "hostile" and urged the apex court to not release him on bail.ASG Raju said that many candidates of the AAP in the Goa Assembly election came forward to give their statements to the central agency only after CM Kejriwal was arrested. "They (witnesses) will turn hostile if your lordships release Kejriwal on bail," he said.

PM Modi pitches India to chip makers, talks of supply chain resilience



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday (September 11, 2024) said resilience of supply chains is critical for the economy as he made a pitch to boost investments in domestic manufacturing of semiconductors the foundation of everything from smartphone to EV and Al. Speaking at the SEMICON 2024 conference on the outskirts of the national capital, the Prime Minister said the COVID pandemic showed the importance of the supply chain and underscored the need to act to ward off any disruption. "Resilience of the supply chain is very important," he said. "India is working to create the same in different sectors of the economy."The world witnessed supply shocks during COVID-19, as stringent measures to control the spread of pandemic in China affected the industries and sectors dependent on imports from that country. One of the sectors impacted was chips that form a critical part of every electronic device. Prime Minister showcased India's reformist regime, stable policies and a market that has tasted technology to make a strong pitch for investments in semiconductor manufacturing.

"It is our dream to have an Indian-made chip in every device in the world," he said and added that "We will do everything that is needed to make India a semiconductor powerhouse."Talking of steps taken by his government to boost semiconductor manufacturing, he said a reformist government, a growing manufacturing base and an aspirational market that has tasted technology provide a 'Three-D Power' for chip making in the country. "Today's India inspires confidence in the world. When the chips are down, you can bet on India," he said. He said investment of over ?1.5 lakh crore has already been committed in semiconductor manufacturing and many projects are in pipeline.

Godavari river flows above warning level



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Hyderabad: The Godavari river is flowing above warning levels at several upstream points in the State, causing concern. Local authorities are on high alert, monitoring the situation closely to manage the potential impact. The situation has been exacerbated by the swelling of the Indravati river, a major tributary of the Godavari, due to heavy rains in Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

Indravathi is flowing above the warning level at Jagdalpur, contributing significantly to the rising flood levels. At Eturnagaram in the State, Godavari is flowing close to the warning level of 14.83 metres.At Dummugudem, the water level has reached 13.20 m, surpassing the warning level of 13 m. With heavy rains predicted in Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh, river levels are under constant watch. The current flows are Lakshmi Barrage (3.62 lakh cusecs), Sammakka Sagar (Close to 7 lakh cusecs), Sitamma Sagar (Dummugudem) – outflows stand at 12.05 lakh cusecs and Bhadrachalam, where it is close to 11 lakh cusecs. Meanwhile, the Nizam Sagar project (100%) and Singur project (99.13 %) on Manjira and Jaikwadi dam (98.56 %), Kaddam project (96.58 %) and Sripada Yellamapalli (91.76 %) have been listed as reservoirs in Godavari basin with storage above 90 percent of their gross capacity.

GHMC Commissioner Amrapali Kata examines proposals of H-CITI in LB Nagar zone

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Hyderabad: The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner, Amrapali Kata accompanied by project chief engineer, superintending engineer and other engineers, examined the proposals of works to be undertaken under H-CITI in LB Nagar zone on Wednesday.

Indian Chronicle

English Daily

Haryana polls

THE upcoming Haryana Assembly elections mark critical juncture in the state's political landscape. The elections have taken a decisive turn, with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) releasing its first list of 20 candilates, effectively ending alliance talks with the Conress. This development transforms the contest from a traightforward Congress-AAP vs BJP battle into a nulti-cornered fight, adding complexity to an already charged political atmosphere. By fielding candidates n key Congress strongholds such as Rohtak, Bahadurgarh and Samalkha, AAP has made its intenions clear. Leaders like Anurag Dhanda contesting rom Kalayat and Kuldeep Gadrana taking on the lannayak Janta Party's (JJP) Digvijay Chautala in Dabwali signify that AAP is positioning itself as a serious contender. The decision to go solo, particularly in segments with sitting Congress MLAs, shows the party's mbition to gain ground beyond its urban base. AAP's electoral success in constituencies like Kalayat in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections adds weight to this bold strategy.Meanwhile, this shift leaves the Congress vulnerable as the splintering of the Opposition vote is likely o benefit the BJP. The ruling BJP, already facing faconalism and rural discontent, may use the fractured Opposition to its advantage, although anti-incumbency emains a formidable challenge for it. As AAP and the Congress intensify the battle, regional players like the JP and the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) are inreasingly fading away. The JJP, which once helped he BJP form the government, is struggling to maintain ts rural base, particularly after the farmers' protests. The INLD, banking on its traditional agrarian support, emains relevant in only a handful of constituencies. The election, hitherto expected to be essentially a conest between the BJP and the Congress

How IAS officer Suhas Yathiraj, Karnataka native, shot to fame in para-badminton at Paris 2024 Paralympics

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

In a world where the demands of public service and the pursuit of athletic excellence often seem improbable, Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj stands as a remarkable exception. Yathiraj, 41, has not only scaled the heights of Indian bureaucracy but has also carved out a formidable reputation in the world of para-badminton. The ongoing Paris 2024 Paralympics saw Yathiraj clinching a silver medal in the SL4 category, marking a remarkable achievement in his dual career.

achievement in his dual career. Yathiraj's life is a testament to the power of balancing ambition with dedication. By day, he serves as a highly regarded Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, currently posted as the District Magistrate (DM) of Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh. By evening, he transforms into a world-class para-badminton player, demonstrating a rare ability to excel in two demanding arenas simultaneously. Born in Hassan, Yathiraj was diagnosed with a limb impairment at birth. However, his parents raised him with the belief that no obstacle was too great to overcome, a philosophy that has guided him throughout his life. Yathiraj's academic achievements are as commendable as his sporting accolades. He holds a degree in Computer Engineering and was drawn towards public service, eventually cracking the UPSC exams to join the IAS in 2007. Despite his professional commitments, Yathiraj's love for sports, particularly badminton, never waned. It wasn't until he was posted in Azamgarh in 2015 that he began to seriously pursue para-badminton. Encouraged by friends and colleagues, he started training rigorously, juggling his administrative duties with his sporting ambitions. Yathiraj's entry into the world of para-badminton was marked by rapid success. His first major international victory came in 2016, when he won a gold medal at the Asian Para-Badminton Championships. This achievement was the first of many, establishing him as one of India's leading para-athletes. Yathiraj's performance on the global stage continued to improve, and in 2021, he became the first-ever IAS officer to win a medal at the Paralympic Games, securing a silver in Tokyo. The road to Tokyo was not an easy one. Yathiraj had to navigate the challenges of a global pandemic, intense training sessions, and his responsibilities as a public servant during one of the most challenging periods in modern history. Fast forward to the Paris 2024 Paralympics, where Yathiraj once again showcased his exceptional skills on the court. Competing in the SL4 category, he battled his way to the finals, displaying the grit and tenacity that has become his hallmark. However, despite his best efforts, Yathiraj fell just short of the gold, securing a silver medal after a hard-fought match against his French opponent. Lucas Mazur. For Yathiraj, the silver was both a triumph and a source of introspection. After the event, he spoke in a mix of pride and disappointment. "...coming here as world no.1 and as world champion, there was pressure and expectations on me. I too expected that I will do well here. Ideally I would have liked to win a gold medal, which is every player's dream," he said. He added, "winning the silver is a mixed feeling, there is sadness and disappointment of missing the gold. But when the feeling sinks in then you will realise qualifying for Paralympics and representing your country was a big thing. And winning the silver is a proud moment and I feel extremely humbled and grateful."In fact he also shared the events leading upto the Paralympics qualification, which he describes as an enjoyable journey. "When I started this Paralympics qualification journey, I had not played for one-two years and was world no. 39. From there to reach top-12 and then qualify for Level-1 tournaments and from there to win Asian Para Games gold, world championships gold, become world no.1...you need to enjoy this journey," he said. Yathiraj's contributions to public service are as remarkable as his achievements in sports. In 2016, he was honoured with the Yash Bharti award, Uttar Pradesh's highest civilian accolade in recognition to his exceptional service. His innovative approach to governance is evident in the mobile applications he developed, such as 'Kuposhan ka Darpan' and 'Pregnancy ka Darpan', aimed at improving the health of undernourished children and pregnant mothers. Additionally, he created a mobile app

designed to assist differently-abled voters during the Gen-

eral Elections, in an effort to work towards inclusivity and

Consumer court directs Lufthansa to pay student passenger Rs 1 lakh for mental pain caused two years ago, ticket cost



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

A consumer court in Gujarat's Gandhinagar on Friday partly allowed compensation to a student passenger who sought a refund from German airline major Deutsche Lufthansa for not informing him about the need for a Schengen visa for his Mumbai-Toronto journey that had halted at Munich and Frankfurt in Germany. The complainant Maharshi Yadav, 25, who was heading to Canada for higher studies, was stopped at Mumbai airport on April 13, 2022, for not possessing a Schengen visa – which is mandatory for halts in European countries like Germany. Yadav, in his complaint before the Gandhinagar District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission against Lufthansa, alleged that the airline had engaged in unfair trade practices as it did not inform him about any prerequisite requirement towards any other visa for en

The commission, including president D T Soni, and members Dr S R Pandya and Hemkalaben Shah, directed Lufthansa to pay Yadav Rs 1 lakh, and also the ticket fare of Rs 67,612 at an interest rate of 8 per cent from the date of filing of the complaint. The amount has to be paid within 30 days from the date of receiving the certified copy of the judgment, it said. Yadav had sought Rs 67,612 for one ticket and another Rs1,70,576 for the ticket he had to purchase from another airline because he was not allowed to board the previous one. Yadav has recently completed his studies in supply chain management from a university in Toronto, Canada, even as the judgment on the problems he faced during his first travel to Canada, has been finalised in India. His lawyer Sunil Chhabaria told The Indian Express that Yadav had obtained Perma-

nent Residency status in Canada at the time of writing this report. Yadav had booked a flight ticket from Mumbai to Toronto on February 23, 2022 for a journey on April 13, 2022. He would fly from Mumbai to Munich, and from there to Frankfurt and then on to Toronto.

The consumer court order stated, "Thus, when the complainant went to check in for his flight at Mumbai airport, he was stopped from boarding as he did not have a transit Schengen visa. He tried to seek help from the airlines and sought a different arrangement but to no avail. The complainant had to forfeit his ticket cost. The complainant claimed that the airline had thus engaged in unfair trade practices."Yadav, who had booked a flight ticket to Toronto on February 23, 2022, had to purchase another ticket at the last minute on an Emirates flight to Toronto via Dubai on April 14, 2022, paying Rs1,70,576.The complainant then, through his mother Pushpa Yadav, on March 14, 2023, approached the District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission (DCDRC) in Gandhinagar to get refunds for both the tickets on the basis of deficiency in service by the airline. The commission's order said, "The airline argued that it was not the fault of the airline that the complainant did not have a Schengen visa that was required for him to travel through Germany as a domestic passenger, that the ticket was non-refundable and that the complainant had himself cancelled the ticket." Chhabaria told The Indian Express. "The court found it fit to grant court costs, refund of the original ticket as well as impose Rs1 lakh compensation from the airline due to the mental anguish caused to my client who was forced to stay in an unknown city, with his ticket to a foreign country cancelled and make arrangements due to the airline not informing him about the requirement for a Schengen visa even though it was the airline that was hopping through Germany before heading to Canada."The commission's order says, "The complainant is entitled to recover the amount of Rs1,00,000 under the head of mental pain and suffering from the opponent within 30 days as stated above". At Mumbai airport Yadav had tried to seek help from the airlines and sought a different arrangement but to no avail. The complainant had to forfeit his ticket costLater, on May 2, 2022, the complainant sent a legal notice to Lufthansa. However, the airline only replied two months later and refused to pay the refund.

Delhi Police arrest kingpin of babyselling racket in North India



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

The Delhi Police arrested a fugitive criminal who had been on the run in connection with the trafficking of newborn babies in North India, said the police on Saturday. Sangram Dass, 38, who landed in the police net in Kolkata, was allegedly the kingpin of the gang involved in buying and selling of babies, particularly from Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. He was booked on February 20, following reports that newborn babies were spotted in the care of suspicious individuals in Jain Nagar Extension in Rohini, the police said. The Crime Branch of the Delhi Police had earlier announced a reward of Rs 20,000 for those providing information on Dass. DCP (Crime Branch) Sanjay Kumar Sain explained that Dass targeted vulnerable families in need, promising them a

better future for their babies. The complaint detailed that the infants were found in neglectful conditions, raising concerns of a possible human trafficking ring. "During interrogation, Dass revealed that he was the kingpin of the gang," the officer said.

Despite numerous raids in Delhi, Odisha, and West Bengal, Dass managed to stay one step ahead by frequently changing his hideouts, said the police. However, the Crime Branch team soon received a credible tip about Dass's location in Kolkata. During investigation, the police found evidence connecting nine people, including four men and five women, involved in the racket. They were arrested earlier; but Dass managed to evade arrest, said an officer. A combination of technical surveillance and intelligence gathering was employed, and the police also interrogated other criminals who had been caught previously in similar cases.

"They (Dass and his gang) would also deceive parents at hospitals, railway stations, and other public areas, kidnapping infants under the guise of offering them a good upbringing. The babies were then kept under the care of female members of the gang until a buyer was found," the DCP said. According to the police, Sangram Dass had moved to Delhi in 2004 for a housekeeping job, and later became involved in criminal activities, gradually building a network of traffickers across the region. He and his associates have been linked to four other cases across Delhi and Haryana, the police said.

Former RG Kar principal Sandip Ghosh made illegal appointments and siphoned funds: CBI in court



The CBI made these submissions before the special court in Alipore on September 3, when Ghosh was produced with three others—Biplab Singha, Suman Hazra and Afsar Ali. All four are in the agency's custody.

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

The CBI, which is investigating the rape and murder of a doctor and alleged financial irregularities at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, has told a special court that former principal Dr Sandip Ghosh siphoned off funds and made 84 illegal appointments in 2022 and 2023. The CBI made these submissions before the special court in Alipore on September 3, when Ghosh was produced with three others—Biplab Singha, Suman Hazra and Afsar Ali. All four are in the agency's custody. After he took over as the RG Kar principal, Dr Ghosh was transferred to a medical college in Murshidabad in September 2023. He returned to RG Kar Medical College within a month and continued until the August 9 incident of rape and murder. He resigned on August 12 and was immediately posted at the Calcutta National Medical College and Hospital. The next day, the Calcutta High Court stepped in and made him go on leave. He was suspended after his arrest by the CBI.

The CBI stated in the court, "It is suspected that Dr. Sandip Ghosh surpassed the process and straightaway

appointed house staffers of his choice without adopting a transparent method for the same. The sole purpose of these discrepancies appears to be to pick and choose candidates of his choice. For 2024, a 13-member committee was formed for selection, merit list as well as counseling of house staffship for MBBS was prepared. "All the documents such as resolution, final merit score have been signed by all committee members and final order of selection staff has been signed by Dr. Sandip Ghosh, Principal, RG Kar, Medical College. But the documents with respect to selection for the years 2022 and 2023, does not contain resolution, detailed calculation of marks. They simply contain final marks and final order for selection of 84 candidates. Whereas in these selection procedures too, committees were formed but the signature of committee members is missing in the mark-sheet and other

On the financial irregularities, the CBI said, "During investigation, instances have come which indicate siphoning of funds by way of managing tender in a collusive manner and the money thereafter reaching to the accused persons of this case. Further verification/investigation in this regard is going on." It is primarily revealed that Dr. Sandip Ghosh showed undue favour to M/s Khama Louha by way of awarding space on rent for running a café under due to clout of Chandan Louha with influential people.... the firms which were awarded contracts, i.e. M/s Maa Tara Traders, M/s Hazra Medical, Nisha Enterprises (controlled and operated by Sk Afsar Ali Khan) etc, were awarded multiple works just below Rs 1 lakhs in order to be eligible for the quotation process for procurement of limited tendering. Multiple bills have been seized in which amounts are just below Rs 1 lakhs. Similarly multiple instances have been identified wherein the amount limit has been kept a few rupees below Rs 10000 in order to avoid quotations at all," the agency added. The CBI submitted that it arrested Dr Ghosh and other three accused "under section 120B /w 420, 409, 467 of IPC and Section 7 & 13(1) (a) of PC Act (as amended by the PC Act Amendment Act, 2018) and accordingly a prayer for adding these sections in the FIR was made".

Police accuse 'conman' Omkar Joshi of posing as member of National Commission for Backward Classes, files fresh FIR



National Commission for Backward Classes

- NGBC

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

'Conman' Omkar Shyamrao Joshi has been booked for allegedly posing as a member of the National Commission for Backward Classes.Police Havaldar Tushar Salunkhe lodged the FIR in this matter at the Sangvi police station on Friday. This is in addition to the cases already pending against Joshi.Joshi, 45, was earlier arrested by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Pimpri Chinchwad city police for allegedly cheating a businessman to the tune of Rs 4.41 crore by falsely claiming to be the director of the Department of Heavy Industries under the Central Government.

During the investigation, the police seized visiting cards on which Joshi claimed to be a member of the National Commission for Backward Classes. Images of the Ashok Stambh were also illegally printed on these cards, the police said. The police suspect the accused has cheated people since May this year by claiming to hold government posts and assuring them to provide jobs or earning opportunities. A fresh FIR was lodged against Joshi under Sections 204, 205, 336 (2), 336 (3), 340 (2), 319 (2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Sections of the State Emblem of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Act, 2005.

Delhi court to take cognisance of charge sheet against Lalu Prasad, Tejashwi on Sep 13



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

land for jobs caseThe Delhi court is likely to take cognisance of a charge sheet a supplementary charge sheet against former railway minister Lalu Prasad, his son and former Bihar deputy chief minister Tejashwi Yadav and eight others. A Delhi court is likely to take cognisance of a supplementary charge sheet against former railway minister Lalu Prasad, his son and former Bihar deputy chief minister Tejashwi Yadav and eight others in alleged land for jobs scam, on September 13.

Special Judge Vishal Gogne on Saturday fixed the matter for the next week after noting that no further clarification was required from the ED on the matter. The final report was filed before the court by the ED on August 6

The ED filed its case based on an FIR lodged by the CBIThe case pertains to Group-D appointments made in West Central Zone of the railways based in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, during Lalu Prasad's tenure as the railway minister from 2004 to 2009 in return for land parcels gifted or transferred by the recruits in the name of the RJD supremo's family or associates, the ED said.

Surat cop booked on woman's complaint of rape and acid attack threat

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

According to the police, Hitesh Mori, 35, a resident of Rampura and head constable with the Udhna police station, met the complainant in December 2021. According to the police, Hitesh Mori, 35, a resident of Rampura and head constable with the Udhna police station, met the complainant in December 2021. A head constable has been booked in Gujarat's Surat city on a rape complaint lodged by a bank employee who rejected his marriage proposal, police said.

According to the police, Hitesh Mori, 35, a resident of Rampura and head constable with the Udhna police station, met the complainant in December 2021. As he had an account with the bank where she worked, the duo became friends and later started meeting after office hours. The woman, who stays with her mother and nephew, said in her police complaint that she had rejected Mori's marriage proposal and stopped answering his phone calls and meeting him. Mori then allegedly started stalking her and, a few days ago, intercepted her while she was returning home after work. As she refused to change her mind, Mori broke the glass of her car's door and allegedly threatened to pour acid on her and kidnap her nephew.

The woman, who escaped from the spot, later complained against Mori to the Dindoli police, which booked him under Indian Penal Code sections 376 (rape), 354D (stalking), 323 (punishment for voluntarily causing hurt), 427 (mischief causing damage to the amount of fifty rupees), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace), 506(1)(criminal intimidation), 506(2)(threat be to cause death or grievous hurt). Inspector R J Chaudasma said, "The accused wanted to marry her but she rejected his proposal as he is already married and has children. The accused has been with the Surat police department for the past 10 years and is serving with the Udhna police now."

Ranga Reddy THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2024 **INDIAN CHRONICLE**

'This is just the start': Shikhandi, Maharashtra's first transgender Dhol Tasha Pathak, looks to make its mark



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

In the bustling lanes of Pune's Market Yard area, filled with vibrant flowers, bright lights, and idols with heartfelt eyes, a 25-member team with dhols around their waists awaits the arrival of Lord Ganesh, looking forward to leaving a mark in this year's Ganeshotav celebrations as Maharashtra's first transgender Dhol Tasha Pathak.Named 'Shikhandi' after a warrior from the Mahabharata who was born a princess but raised as a man, the Dhol Tasha Pathak was founded under the vision of social activist Kadambari Shaikh and mentored by Manasvi Goilkar, Pravin Sonawane, Pritesh Kamble, and Mannat. "None of us knew how to play the instruments nor did we have access to them," founding member Pravin Sonawane told The Indian Express, ahead of the group's debut with the Shrimant Bhausaheb Rangari Ganesh Mandal on Ganesh Chaturthi on Saturday. Dhol Tasha, an instrumental art form integral to the Ganeshotsav celebrations in Pune, became a beacon of light for the group when they saw a gap in the art they wanted to fill. "We want the community to stand tall and take pride in what they do. This group is a passive source of income for many, but for many others, it is their identity," Sonawane added.

Asked about why the group chose 'Dhol Tasha',

Sonawane said that traditionally, the transwoman-dominant community has relied on dancing, begging, or 'Basti Badhai' (blessings to families on auspicious events) and sex work. Teju, a transwoman and a member of the group, mentioned the importance of art and culture for the community. "Dancing, singing, performing...they have been given to us as our legacy. We all are natural artists," Teju said. Having started their training in late July, the group has been practising with the Nadbrahma Dhol Tasha Pathak under Atul Bhere's mentorship and is looking forward to performing at the major processions of five prominent Ganpati pandals in Pune and the renowned Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganesh Mandal. Asked about the support that the group has been receiving, Teju said, "People have been appreciating our efforts as they are seeing something different. They didn't know who we were and hence, did not try to understand our hardships. They only saw us begging at the signal or standing around the corners at night but now they see us working hard. They appreciate our work and this gives us hope." Speaking on the bonding within the group, Sonawane said, "Every member has been working relentlessly. People travel two hours and stay back for 3-4 hours of practice daily to build morale." Only four members of the group have a fixed salary. Three members are unemployed and work on freelancing projects while the rest earn their livelihood by engaging in daily wage tasks. Highlighting the challenges of balancing the responsibilities of being a Dhol Tasha Pathak member with holding a job and managing finances, Sonawane said, "There have been times when our members have not had money to travel to Market Yard and the group has pitched in. Many of our members still work on meagre salaries and it becomes a challenge to commit to such participation daily."However, despite the hurdles, the group is hopeful about the future. "This is just the start, we want to grow. We have a lot to offer and a lot to showcase," Manasvi, a

Minister Atishi asks her officials to plan mental health counselling of Delhi govt school children

member of the group, said.

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Delhi Education Minister Atishi on Friday directed officials in the Directorate of Education (DoE) to plan for mental health counselling of children in all government schools in the capital. According to a statement by the office of the education minister, over 20,000 students received counselling last year. Calling the pilot project a success, it stated that Educational and Vocational Guidance Counsellors (EVGC) and school psychologists were engaged to support the children in maintaining their mental health under the project. Group sessions and socialemotional learning to manage stress were also a part of the pilot phase

"The mental health Initiative has played an important role in this direction. Under this scheme, we aim to provide better health services to school students. With the help of which, a healthy mind, society and a healthy nation will be contributed," read the statement, quoting the minister.It further stated that the minister spoke with the school psychologists and EVGC counsellors posted



in clinics and took their feedback. In the interaction, Minister Atishi was informed of the importance of timely counselling and the lack of awareness of mental health. The minister's office mentioned that in the interaction, the psychologists shared that they have identified problems at the school level through teachers and student counsel-

Row over gatecrashing engagement ceremony ends in murder, 1 held in Delhi



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

The Delhi Police on Friday arrested a man on murder charges after he allegedly assaulted an acquaintance with bricks in the Vikas Nagar area, leading to the man's death. The deceased had berated the accused for gatecrashing an engagement ceremony only to have free food and liquor, the police said.

According to the police, at around 2.33 am on September 6, the Ranhola police station received a police control room (PCR) call, informing them that an injured man was lying near Star Shine Public School, Vikas Nagar. When they reached the spot, there were bricks covered with blood in the area, the police said. Pramod had been taken to Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital before the police arrived at the spot and was declared brought dead, the police said.

According to the police, Pramod was working as a waiter at an engagement ceremony in Shiv Vihar when he spotted Suresh, who was known to him. A resident of JJ Colony, Shiv Vihar, Suresh had entered the function uninvited, a police official said. Noting that he was there just for the free food and liquor, he was thrown out by the organisers and verbally abused by Pramod, the police said. "Suresh went away and was standing near Tyagi Dairy, Shiv Vihar when Pramod came and abused him again. Suresh then followed Pramod till F-block, Krishna Sweets and beat him with bricks," Jimmy Chiram, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer), said. "The accused was trying to escape from Delhi but was apprehended at 9 am from Nala Road, Vikaspuri. He was arrested at 3 pm after he confessed to the crime," a police official at Ranhola

"Visas for Canada, UK": How brother-sister travel agent duo duped people including Punjab Police cop on CM Security



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

A brother-sister duo from Punjab, both travel agents, were arrested for allegedly duping several persons of crores on the pretext of sending them to the UK and Canada, including a woman police officer from Mohali, who is a member of the chief minister's security team, Ludhiana police said Friday. Police said Rs 1.07 crore in cash was seized from their possession which they allegedly collected from victims on the pretext of arranging

In her complaint submitted to Ludhiana police in May this year, Senior Constable Ravneet Kaur from Mohali stated that her brother and his wife were duped of Rs 14.30 lakh by Dugri residents Amit Malhotra, 39, and his sister Veenu Malhotra, the owners of Global Way Immigration at Ishmeet Singh Chowk in Ludhiana. According to the FIR registered at the Model Town police station, Ravneet Kaur stated, "I am posted with the CM's security team. My brother Jagdeep Singh and his wife Sukhvir Kaur wanted to move to the UK and had paid Rs 14.30 lakh to the Ludhiana firm in 2020 to arrange visas for them. However, the firm adopted dilly-dallying tactics and

made them wait for four years on one pretext or the other. The firm neither arranged their visas nor returned them their money." After a thorough probe, an FIR was registered against the duo on September 4 under the sections 420 (cheating) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) (as the crime reportedly took place in 2020) and section 24 of the Immigration Act at the Model Town police and then the brother-sister duo was arrested, police said.

Police said the prima facie probe revealed the siblings duped several people to the tune of crores of rupees, and further investigation was being conducted Additional DCP Zone-3 Shubham Aggarwal said the brother-sister duo would lure people with the false promise of sending them abroad, mainly the UK and Canada. "After receiving the fee for the visa, they would point out flaws in the documents and claim their application was rejected. Gradually, they would swindle money from several victims which is being probedfurther,' the officer said.

Protesting against the same company, a couple -Hardeep Singh and Amandeep Kaur from Dhuri in Sangrur — had climbed atop a water tank in Ludhiana's Model Town Extension on August 12, alleging they were duped of Rs 10 lakh on the pretext of arranging visas to the UK for them, and threatened to end their lives. Hardeep's brother Lakhwinder Singh said, "A deal was sealed for Rs 26 lakh, with an advance payment of Rs 10 lakh made via RTGS in February. However, the firm allegedly kept delaying the process and started making excuses when approached for updates on the visa. Besides, the company's bouncers would misbehave with us."The couple climbed down after police assured them of action. Later, the Ludhiana district administration cancelled the firm's licence. Previously in 2018, three FIRs were registered against Veenu Malhotra for cheating at the Division Number 8 police station, police said.

635 huts razed in Gujarat's Kandla port as 2-day mega demolition drive ends

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

The Deendayal Port Authority (DPA) in Gujarat razed more than 600 huts of fishermen at Kandla port in Kutch district and cleared "encroachments" on more than 250 acres of land during a mega demolition drive that concluded on Friday. Multiple excavators ran through Banna Basti, demolishing huts and sheds which served as homes to around 6,000 fishermen. Officials of DPA, an autonomous body functioning under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, said that 580 huts were demolished on Thursday and 55 more were pulled down on Friday."Around a month ago, the DPA had served notices to vacate the area. However, people remained under the impression that their huts would not be demolished during the rainy season. But the bulldozers came all of a sudden and people hardly had time to salvage valuables from their huts," a fishermen leader told The Indian Express on Friday, requesting anonym-

The leader said that many fishermen had been living there for generations. "The DPA had been serving notices for the past two or three years to vacate the area but most of the people there had nowhere else to go. Many of them had been living there for generations. So, they stayed put," the leader said, adding, "They are camping on the road in the area amidst intermittent rains after their huts were demolished."DPA chairman Sushil Kumai Singh said. "These huts were located on a patch of land between dry cargo jetties and liquid cargo jetties. Between two custom-bonded areas of the port, we had this open area with access to our waterfront. They were encroachments on DPA land and therefore, we demolished them after serving them notices," Singh told The Indian Express. Kandla is the largest public sector port in India. It is also a major landing port for imports of crude oil and edible oils into India.

Singh added that the settlements were amidst a maze of jetties, pipelines for transmission of hazardous chemicals like ammonia, and tank farms with a storage capacity of 34 lakh kilo litres. "We had complaints of people puncturing pipelines for stealing cargo. If gases like ammonia leak, it can lead to a tragedy like the Bhopal gas tragedy. Additionally, though Kandla port is an ISPS (International Ship and Port Facility Security) Code-compliant port, these settlements were a huge concern during periodic audits. In any case, they were unauthorised settlements," said Singh.

He added that the DPA had facilitated the rehabilitation and resettlement of some fishermen. "They were offered residential facilities outside the port area more



than a decade ago. But some of them sold those houses, returned to Kandla port and rebuilt huts," he said. Kandla is the second port in Kutch district to witness a mega demolition drive in recent years. The Gujarat government had demolished more than 300 huts, sheds and godowns in Jakhau port in Kutch in October 2022 after terming them encroachments on government land. Asked why the DPA undertook the drive amid intermittent rains in Kutch Singh said: "We had been getting lots of inputs about threat to coast security, maritime security and security of cargo that is handled by the port." He said that the DPA was providing food packets and drinking water to the affected people. "We are providing them food and water on humanitarian grounds. and rehabilitation is not our mandate," he added. There are four notified fish landing points within Kandla port through which fishermen operate their boats. "The Gujarat government has notified 114 fish landing points, including four in Kandla, along the coast of Guiarat, The DPA will continue to allow fishermen access to the waterfront through these four fish landing points. But to prevent the settlement of huts from coming up again, we will construct a wall and fence around the land which has been cleared," Singh said. "We will also request the Gujarat government reconsider the notification notifying the four points in Kandla port in view of the plans for further development of Kandla port, including increasing the cargo throughput to 150 million tonnes, developing the port as a hub of green hydrogen ecosystem etc," he added. The fishermen leader, however, said that the fishermen were upset that they were being seen as a security threat. "My grandfather had ferried material on his head during the construction of Kandla port and all of a sudden, we are told that we cannot live on this land. If the DPA wants to flush us out of Kandla, so be it. But it hurts deeply when we are considered a security threat. We are poor people who barely earn enough to meet daily needs but we are

Khet Bhavan 'gifted' to MGSAMT; member objects, approaches HC

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

The acquisition of Khet Bhavan on September 5 by the Mahatma Gandhi Sabarmati Ashram Memorial Trust (MGSAMT) has run into a controversy after one of the warring factions at the trust that runs the non-governmental organisation has moved the Gujarat High Court questioning the "gift deed" through which the building was handed over the state government. Pradip Dave, reportedly an executive committee member of Gujarat Khet Vikas Parishad (GKVP) — the trust that runs Khet Bhavan, has moved the Gujarat High Court objecting to the transfer alleging that the building, situated close to the Gandhi Ashram, has been gifted through a "so-called" legal process that was done in "a hasty and suspicious" manner. He also claimed he was elected GKVP president on November 5 last year and that an application moved by another trustee and GKVP secretary, Dinesh Batua, before Charity Commissioner R V Vyas seeking permission to "gift" Khet Bhavan to MGSAMT was not a unanimous

On the other hand, Batua and former Congress MP Amarsinh Z Chaudhary refuted Dave's claims saying they are the secretary and president, respectively. On September 5, the Ahmedabad Collector took possession of Khet Bhavan, which housed the office of GKVP — a registered public trust founded by veteren Congress leader late Zinabhai Darji and linked to many political and social movements in the state, on behalf of MGSAMT that is implementing the Rs 1,200-crore Sabarmati Ashram redevelopment project. The collector's move followed Batua's application on June 16 seeking permission to "gift" Khet Bhavan to MGSAMT.Following this, on July 22, Charity Commissioner Vyas issued a public notice in newspaper inviting suggestions/representations from concerned interested parties in the form of an affidavit by August 7. The hearing on those suggestions/representations was kept on August 8.Eventually, Vyas issued an order on August 27 allowing Batua's application to gift Khet Bhavan to MGSAMT. A copy of Vyas' order was officially sent to various people, including Batua and Dave.

The Ahmedabad Collector took possession of Khet Bhavan on September 5 following the order. A government official confirmed that they have taken over the possession of Khet Bhavan Thursday evening. A banner has also been placed at the entrance of Khet Bhavan stating that the building has been gifted to MGSAMT as per the order dated August 27, 2024. "Its possession has been taken by Collector, Ahmedabad on behalf of the Trust (MGSAMT)," the poster reads, warning of legal action against trespassing. However, Dave has taken objection to "gift deed". "I was appointed GKVP president on November 5 last year. As per the rules of our trust (GKVP), the resolution of gifting Khet Bhavan has to be done unanimously. I was not even consulted. Batua does not have the authority to move the application before the Charity Commissioner seeking permission to gift Khet Bhavan to MGSAMT," Dave told The Indian Express. Questioning the motive behind gifting Khet Bhavan to MGSAMT, he said, "The MGSAMT officials had spoken to us to acquire Khet Bhavan for the Sabarmati Ashram Redevelopment project by awarding compensation. Why should the trust give the building for free?"He also questioned the manner in which the application seeking permission to gift Khet Bhavan to MGSAMT was decided by the Charity Commissioner. He accused Vyas of deciding the matter in "great haste". However, rejecting Dave's claims, Batua said the decision to gift the building was taken by the board of trustees. "Our organisation was founded by Zinabhai Darji who was committed to Gandhian values. We are his disciples.

Our (trust's) president is Amarsinh Z Chaudhary, who is also committed to Gandhian values. This Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial is a national project and so, to join it our board of trustees passed a resolution and decided to gift (Khet Bhavan). Accordingly, we got permission from the Charity (Commissioner). We have gifted it and given its possession as well."Refusing to comment on the allegations levelled by Dave, Batua said, "Pradipbhai is no authorised person. He is neither president nor trustee of the trust. Amarsinh Chaudhary is the president and I am a trustee and secretary." Chaudhary, who was also a former Congress MP, echoed Batua's claims. "The decision (to gift Khet Bhavan) was taken by the board of trustees. Two-three people had objections to it. The decision was taken by majority. I rebut the claim that we did not have the power (to pass resolution to gift



Khet Bhavan). I am president of the trust and there are decisions of the Charity Commissioner."

But Dave alleged that the "gifting" was a move to retain control over GKVP. "My predecessor, Amarsinh Z Chaudhary (former Congress MP), was removed from the post of president on November 5, 2023 in a meeting of the trust. As a result, Batua, too, lost the post of secretary. I was appointed the president. So, they have managed to do this to retain their control over GKVP," he said.On allegations of corruption leveled against him by Dave, Chaudhary said, "I am associated with Khet Bhavan for the past 50 years. I have been in public life for the past 50-60 years. Till date, no finger has been pointed against me. I am also the president of Gandhi Vidhyapith, Vedchhi for the past 25 years. I have been associated with around 100 educational organisations across Gujarat. It is for the people to decide who is what."

Court discharges doctor accused in 17-year-old egg donor's death



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

STATING THAT there is no sufficient ground for proceeding against him, a sessions court, in a recent order, discharged a doctor accused in a case of a 17-year-old egg donor's death in 2010. The court also noted that the investigation in the case was not up to the mark. The court discharged Dr Gautam Allahabadia, a gynaecologist, who runs a fertility clinic in Bandra, and was named in the chargesheet filed by the Mumbai police in 2015. "... in the overall view of the matter, I find that there is no sufficient ground for proceeding against the applicant-accused Dr Gautam Allahabadia," additional sessions judge V M Pathade said in the order on September 2.

The case dates back to 2010, when Sushma Pandey, a scrapyard worker, died after she was rushed to civicrun Rajawadi Hospital, with complaints of abdominal pain, three days after she had donated eggs. The police had claimed that the procedure was done at Bandra-based 'Rotunda-The Centre for Human Reproduction' for the third time. The police had alleged that this was in violation of the Assisted Reproductive (Regulations) Bill and Rules as well as the Indian Council of Medical Research guidelines, which fixed the age for a person donating

eggs to be between 18 and 35

Allahabadia through his lawyer Priyanka Dubey had submitted before the court that Pandey had submitted a PAN card, which stated that her age was 19/20 years of age and that her name was Sushma Dubey. The PAN card was later found to be bogus. The lawyer said that there was no mechanism at the clinic to determine the age or name of the patient, or to verify if a document submitted is genuine, and that the hospital acts upon the statement made by the patient or their relative along with supporting documents.

Allahabadia had also cited a report of a panel of doctors of state-run J J Hospital, issued on December 9, 2013, claiming that there is no evidence to suggest that there was medical negligence by doctors of Rotunda Hospital. The doctor also submitted that the expert committee reports of the J J Hospital claim that the death was caused due to ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome, a known remote complication of the process of egg donation. It was submitted that Pandey or her relatives had not come to the hospital when she had pain, hence it could not be said to be medical negligence. Allahabadia also cited other co-accused being discharged in the case, including doctors at the clinic. The police had opposed the discharge plea stating that procedure was not followed to ascertain Pandey's age, which was below 18 years, or to check if she is psychologically capable to undergo the procedure. The court said that there is no clarity in the investigation about where Pandey was after she left the clinic on August 8, 2010 around 4 pm, or what had happened to the Rs 25,000 paid to her in a cheque after the process, and the injuries received by her, as seen in the post mortem. "After having perused the material available on record, it is prima facie apparent that the investigation conducted in this case is not up to the mark," the

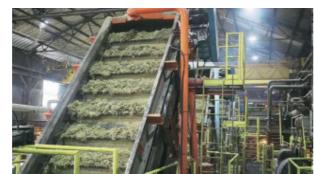
Govt exempts sugar factories NOC requirement from previous lender despite financial dept warning

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

The factory sought the change because it needed additional funding beyond a loan already secured from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF), which had refused to issue an NOC. The factory sought the change because it needed additional funding beyond a loan already secured from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF), which had refused to issue an NOC. The State Cabinet last month approved changes to the norms governing government guarantees for loans to co-operative sugar factories, despite objections from the Finance Department. The revised norms exempt factories from needing a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from previous lenders when applying for new loans. The proposal, approved by the cabinet on August 25, was prompted by an application from Shree Chhatrapati Co-operative Sugar Factory in Bhavaninagar, Pune. This factory is linked to NCP MLA and former Indapur minister Dattatraya Bharane, a close aide of Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar.

The factory sought the change because it needed additional funding beyond a loan already secured from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF), which had refused to issue an NOC.Additionally, the cabinet meeting introduced a provision making it the collective responsibility of the entire board of directors, as well as the individual responsibility of the directors, to repay loans.Previously, if a co-operative sugar factory had an existing loan, the NOC clause required the factory to obtain clearance from the previous lender before securing new financing. This clause has now been removed.

The mandatory clause about NOC said, "If the co-tively share the responsibility for loan repayment.



operative sugar factory has taken loan earlier, the claim of lender, state government and state co-operative bank will continue on the assets of the factory and to claim new loan, the responsibility of taking the NOC from the lender will be mandatory on sugar factory." This clause was deleted with approval from the state cabinet. The co-operative department proposed the changes, but the finance department raised concerns about potential future liabilities to the state government."If the clause about mandatory NOC from the lender while taking another loan is removed and in future if Shree Chhatrapati sugar factory failed to pay Rs 128-crore loan, the burden will fall on the state government as it has given guarantee to pay the loan," objected the finance department. Despite these concerns, the state cabinet approved the changes, including removal of the mandatory NOC clause. Moving forward, board directors must submit personal bonds before loan disbursement, and the entire board will collec-

Karnataka eyes tripling bioeconomy to \$100 bn by 2030 with new biotechnology policy



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Information Technology-Biotechnology Minister Priyank Kharge on Friday unveiled the Karnataka Biotechnology Policy 2024-2029, which aims to propel the state's bioeconomy to \$100 billion by 2030, significantly contributing to India's goal of a \$300 billion bioeconomy within the same timeframe. India currently stands among the top 12 global biotechnology hubs, with Karnataka playing a crucial role, boasting a bioeconomy valued between \$27 billion and \$31 billion. The state, home to over 1,000 biotech startups, has seen substantial investments surpassing \$200 million. At the launch, Kharge said, "We are thrilled to unveil the Karnataka Biotechnology Policy 2024-2029, which marks a landmark moment in our journey to establish Karnataka as a global biotechnology leader. The bioeconomy in Karnataka has experienced extraordinary growth, and the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of startups has been significant in shaping the future of Karnataka's bioeconomy."

The Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society, operating under the Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T, spearheads this ambitious policy. The mission is to position the state as a leading global biotechnology destination by fostering a dynamic ecosystem that attracts top talent, builds world-class infrastructure, drives cutting-edge research and innovation, and promotes international collaboration, entrepreneurship, and inclusive economic growth. Building on previous successes, the policy is designed to exponentially accelerate growth by aligning with existing policies while addressing the specific needs of the biotech sector. The policy objectives are multifaceted and aim to build on past achievements while strategically implementing new policies to drive growth in Karnataka's biotechnology sector. The key objectives are the following:Strengthening biotech education: The policy emphasises skilling to enhance employability and

entrepreneurship in the biotech sector. This will ensure that Karnataka develops a future-ready workforce capable of meeting the demands of a rapidly evolving industry. Streamlining regulations: To attract investment and facilitate business, the policy aims to make it easier for startups and established companies to operate in Karnataka. Supporting biomanufacturing: The policy aligns biomanufacturing activities with health, climate, and energy goals, enhancing food security and positioning Karnataka as a global biomanufacturing hub.

Supporting startups and mid-stage ventures: Earlystage biotech startups will receive continued support through funding and mentorship, while mid-stage ventures will benefit from growth facilities and market access. The policy also encourages preferential procurement of local biotech products. Establishing regulatory sandbox: The policy introduces a regulatory sandbox to expedite the use of biotech innovations. This will enable quicker implementation of cutting-edge technologies, giving Karnataka a competitive edge in the global biotech market.Job creation and skill development: The policy aims to create 30,000 high-quality jobs in the biotech sector by 2029. To support this, the state will partner with over 200 institutions to train 20,000 individuals in specialised biotech skills. Fiscal incentives and concessionsA significant feature of the new policy is the array of fiscal incentives and concessions offered to startups, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), and large industries. These are designed to stimulate growth by reducing operational costs and encouraging innovation

Startups will benefit from state GST reimbursement, marketing cost reimbursement, patent cost reimbursement, quality certification cost reimbursement, and support for incubation/acceleration centres, including onetime capital grants for establishment and upgradation or expansion.MSMEs will receive similar benefits, with additional incentives such as prototyping cost reimbursement, interest subsidy, stamp duty exemption, land conversion fee incentive, and power tariff concession.Large industries are also well catered for, with incentives including STP cost reimbursement, rainwater harvesting cost reimbursement, interest subsidy, land cost reimbursement, production-linked incentives, and more. The policy places a strong emphasis on emerging biotech fields such as bio-agriculture, bio-industrial applications (including bio-energy and nutraceuticals), marine biotechnology, synthetic biotechnology, medical devices, and diagnos-

Mumbai police step up school safety measures after Badlapur sexual abuse case



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Badlapur school case, badlapur sexual assualt case, mumbai news, maharashtra news, badlapur sexual abuse case, badlapur news, mumbai latest news, pocso act, pocso act badlapur, indian expressMumbai Commissioner of Police has issued new guidelines aimed at enhancing security protocols in schools. In response to the recent sexual abuse incident at a Badlapur school, Mumbai's Commissioner of Police Vivek Phansalkar has issued new directives aimed at enhancing safety protocols in educational institutions across the city mandating that local police regularly inspect schools, colleges, and coaching centers in their areas.

The directives come after a 24-year-old janitor allegedly assaulted two four-year-old girls in a Badlapur school washroom on August 12 and 13. The assailant was arrested on August 17 and is still in custody. The incident has led to a significant increase in child sexual abuse cases being reported under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.From August 20 to September 2, Mumbai police stations have recorded at least 121 new POCSO cases, surpassing the monthly average of 90. This includes several cases occurring on school premises.In a new order accessed by The Indian Express, Phansalkar outlined a nine-point plan for police officers, including station heads, Assistant Commission-

ers (ACPs), Deputy Commissioners (DCPs), and additional commissioners. The directives require regular visits by women police officers to ensure that educational institutions adhere to safety guidelines. These guidelines include the installation of CCTV cameras, appointment of supervisors, verification of staff, and enhanced security at washrooms and throughout school premises. Should any institution fail to comply, police teams are instructed to meet with the principal or operator to enforce adherence.

The Commissioner also emphasized the importance of conducting 'Police Didi' sessions to educate students about their legal rights and safety measures, fostering a supportive environment where students feel confident approaching law enforcement. Additionally, the Nirbhaya squads have been tasked with visiting educational institutions to raise awareness about legal consequences for sexual crimes and other emerging issues like cyber extortion and blackmail. "Police should also do confidencebuilding exercises among students so that they should not hesitate or fear approaching police when they are in any sort of trouble," Phansalkar stated in the order. The new directive calls for senior officers to monitor the efficiency and sensitivity of complaint handling at police stations, ensuring complaints are processed promptly and in the complainant's preferred language.

The Commissioner also mandated Deputy Commissioners to visit homes of POCSO victims in plain clothes to offer support and build trust. This approach aims to prevent further distress to the victims' families and ensure they feel secure in their interactions with the police. In the Badlapur case, Inspector General Arti Singh, leading the Special Investigation Team (SIT), personally visited the victims and their families on the first day of the investigation. It also instructs police stations to hold regular grievance redressal sessions for victims of sexual offences to ensure they are satisfied with the investigation and to address any ongoing concerns, including harassment by accused individuals on bail.

Waqf board 'scam': ED has no fresh material, ignoring CBI chargesheet, AAP MLAAmanatullah Khan tells court

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Special Judge Vishal Gogne of Rouse Avenue was hearing a money laundering case related to illegal recruitments in the Delhi Waqf Board in which Khan was arrested earlier this week. While Khan was sent to ED custody for four days on Monday, Judge Gogne extended it by another three days."... the investigative agency may require extended time to unravel the multi-layered and masked financial transactions which may have been designed to launder a substantial amount of money (Rs 36 crore) into properties fronted by the agents of accused Amanatullah Khan," said Special Judge Gogne in his order.

Meanwhile, the court also cautioned the ED to be "cognizant of the attrition of liberty and the constraints on the individual agency of an accused through the instrumentality of custodial investigation". The agency was further directed to maintain a detailed record of the custodial investigation of the accused during the following three days and present it before the court in the next hearing. Advocate Rajat Bharadwaj, appearing for Khan, questioned the need to arrest the Okhla MLA: "Khan appeared before the ED on April 18. He was enquired for 13 hours. In the four-day ED custody (which started on Monday), the same questions were asked to him again."

Calling the ED's investigation "unfair", Bharadwaj said the material in this case already existed with the ED in 2023 and that Khan is not named as an accused in the chargesheet filed by the agency this January. On the other hand, Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) Manish Jain, representing the central probe agency, sought 10-day custody of the accused, stating that he had to be confronted with material against him — this included a diary owned by a co-accused and statements of co-accused and witnesses. "The accused is saying he doesn't understand English and only understands Hindi. We need to translate statements of the witnesses to confront him," said Jain.Bharadwaj, however, argued that all the evidence - including the diary and the statements — existed with the agency since last year. "... they can't arrest me to confront me with statements which existed in 2023... kuch to naya le aate. Kuch bhi nahi hai inke paas (they have to bring new material... they have nothing against me)," he added.Bharadwaj also argued: "They could have shown Khan the statements of witnesses on April 18 itself (when he was questioned by the ED). All their statements were recorded before that." Addressing the ED, Judge Gogne



said: "A substantive part of your confrontation is over it seems. Other accused persons have also already been questioned and confronted."

It was, however, Jain's case that there were new witnesses who will be named in the supplementary chargesheet that will be filed and Khan is yet to be confronted with their statements. "On 14 occasions, Khan has not joined the investigation," the SPP added."... the examination of the case diaries by the court today suggests the possibility that the statements or material collected from about 48 witnesses... who are not part of the first prosecution complaint may be required to be confronted to the accused," the court said in its order. The case registered by the ED against Khan stems from two FIRs: one filed by the CBI concerning alleged irregularities in Waqf Board appointments, and another by the Delhi Anti-Corruption Branch regarding an alleged case of disproportionate assets. In the CBI's case, Khan was granted bail as he wasn't arrested. In the case registered by the ACB, he was granted regular bail after being arrested.Bharadwaj argued that the ED had ignored the CBI's chargesheet in this case. "In the CBI chargesheet (against Khan), it is said that there were administrative irregularities and not corruption," he said. "No money has been generated in the predicate offence (CBI's case). Khan has not received any bribes," Bharadwaj concluded, referring to the CBI chargesheet. On April 18, the ED summoned Khan and questioned him for 13 hours. According to the agency, he allegedly acquired "huge proceeds of crime" through illegal recruitment of staff, and invested the amount to purchase immovable assets in the name of his aides. All four of his alleged aides are currently in

Customer helpline number launched: Pune RTO deploys squads to keep check on overpriced bus tickets

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

A day ahead of the Ganesh festival, private bus travel agencies in Pune surged their fares beyond the limits permitted by the RTO, with some fares recorded at more than double the allowed rates. In response to this, the Pune RTO deployed teams along bus routes and launched a helpline number for passengers to report overcharging. Despite the Pune RTO deploying squads across the city to inspect overcharging, many bus travel agencies continue to demand exorbitant prices, using the festive season as an excuse. Numerous passengers have complained about being overcharged.

Shantanu Shedge, who frequently travels from Pune to Parali, Nanded, said that State Transport (ST) buses to Nanded usually charge around Rs 535 to 550 for non-AC and slightly higher, by a hundred or two hundred rupees, for AC buses. However, when he tried to book a ticket recently through a private agency, he was asked to pay Rs 1,160 for a non-AC bus and Rs 1,700 for an AC bus ticket, citing the festival as reason for the higher rates. The booking app showed fares starting from Rs 1,200 going up to Rs 2,000.Another passenger, Vishal Meshram from Gadchiroli, noted that there was no direct bus to Gadchiroli and the state-run ST buses ply only from Pune to Nagpur, creating a wait of four to five hours to change buses. "The only option is private buses, which usually cost around Rs 1,500 on regular days, but during Diwali



and Ganesh festivals, the fare varies from Rs 3,000 to 4,000, even for the Pune to Chandrapur route," he said. After checking on an app, a bus operator charged nearly

To address the issue, the Pune RTO constituted squads in the city and deployed them along major routes to resolve the problem. Deputy RTO Swapnil Bhosle stated that in response to passengers' concerns about overcharging, the RTO has formed ten squads, each comprising two inspectors. "These officials will closely monitor routes such as Sangamwadi Bridge, Pune-Nagar Road, Pune-Satara Road, and others. They will check passenger tickets, and at the same time, the team will keep a vigil on bus booking applications," he said.

Israel says it has struck Beirut targeting Hezbollah commander accused in deaths of 12 children and teens



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Israel carried out a rare strike on Beirut, which it said killed the Hezbollah commander who was allegedly behind a weekend rocket attack that killed 12 young people in the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights. Hezbollah did not immediately confirm the commander's death. The Israeli strike killed a woman and two children and wounded dozens of other people in escalating hostilities with the Lebanese militant group. An Israeli official said the target was Fouad Shukur, a top Hezbollah military commander whom the US blames for planning and launching the deadly 1983 Marine bombing in the Lebanese capital. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to discuss the details of the strike with the media. Shukur is also suspected in other strikes that killed Israeli civilians. Though Hezbollah issued a rare denial of involvement in the rocket attack Saturday in the town of Majdal Shams, Israel is holding the militant group responsible. "Hezbollah crossed a red line," Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant posted on the platform X shortly after Tuesday's strike. The two sides have exchanged near-daily strikes for the past 10 months against the backdrop of the war in Gaza, but they have previously kept the conflict at a low level that was unlikely to escalate into full-on war.

Lebanon's public health ministry said Tuesday's strike in a southern suburb of Beirut wounded 74 people, some of them seriously. The wounded were taken to nearby hospitals. Bahman Hospital near the site of the blast called for blood donations. Lebanon's state-run National News Agency reported that the strike was carried out with a drone that launched three rockets.Israel committed a great stupid act: Hezbollah"The Israeli enemy has committed a great stupid act in size, timing and circumstances by targeting an entirely civilian area," Hezbollah official Ali Ammar told Al-Manar TV. "The Israeli enemy will pay a price for this sooner or later." Lebanese caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati condemned the Israeli attack, saying it hit a few metres from one of the largest hospitals in the capital. The office of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did not immediately release a statement, but minutes after the strike sent a photo of the prime minister with his national security adviser and other officials. The airstrike on Beirut's southern suburb of Haret Hreik — a crowded urban neighbourhood where Hezbollah has political and security operations but which is also full of small shops and apartment buildings — damaged several buildings. It was not immediately clear if any Hezbollah official was hit, a Hezbollah official said. A Lebanese military intelligence official said they had no information when asked by The Associated Press whether a senior Hezbollah security official had escaped the airstrike.

Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity in accordance with regulations. The strike hit an apartment building near to a hospital, collapsing half of the targeted building and severely damaging one next to it. The hospital sustained minor damages, while the surrounding streets were littered with debris and broken glass. A forklift was in the middle of the street, reaching to the top floors of the destroyed building, while utility crews removed fallen power lines. Crowds gathered to inspect the damage and check on their families. Some of them chanted in support of Hezbollah.Paramedics could be seen carrying several wounded people out of the damaged buildings. A resident of the suburb whose home is about 200 metres away said that dust from the explosion "covered everything," and that the glass in his son's apartment was broken. "Then people went down on the streets," he said. "Everyone has family. They went to check on them. It was a lot of destruction." He spoke on condition of anonymity out of concern about his security at a tense moment. Hassan Noureddine said he was riding his motorcycle near the building when he heard the sound of two explosions. "It looked like a strike from a drone and not a jet," Mr. Noureddine told the AP near the site of the attack. Despite fears of escalation and a strike in recent days, Noureddine said that he and other people he knows in the area are not fazed and that their spirits are high. Talal Hatoum, a local official with the Shiite Amal Movement, Hezbollah's key political ally in Lebanon, said Tuesday's attack marked a shift in the rules of engagement in the conflict because it caused a significant number of civilian

The last time Israel targeted Beirut was in January, when an airstrike killed a top Hamas official, Saleh Arouri. That strike was the first time Israel had hit Beirut since the 34-day war between Israel and Hezbollah in the summer of 2006. Israel had been expected to retaliate for the strike in Majdal Shams, but diplomats had said in recent days that they expected the response to stay within the boundaries of the ongoing low-level conflict between Hezbollah and Israel without provoking all-out war. Many of them had not expected that Israel would hit Beirut, which might elicit a strike by Hezbollah on a major population center in Israel. The United Nations' special coordinator for Lebanon, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, said in a statement that she was "deeply concerned" by the strike and called for "calm to prevail." US Vice President Kamala Harris said Israel "has the right to defend itself against the terrorist organization," referring to Hezbollah, but added, "We still must work on a diplomatic solution to end these

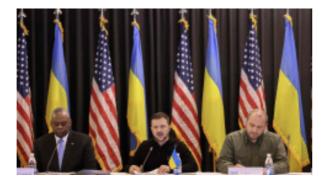
Zelensky meets top military leaders in Germany as the U.S. announces additional aid to Ukraine

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky met Friday with top United States military leaders and more than 50 partner nations in Germany to press for more weapons support Friday as Washington announced it would provide another \$250 million in security assistance to Kyiv.U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said the meeting of the leaders was taking place during a dynamic moment in Ukraine's fight against Russia, as it conducts its first offensive operations of the war while facing a significant threat from Russian forces near a key hub in the Donbas.

So far the surprise assault inside Russia's Kursk territory has not drawn away President Vladimir Putin's focus from taking the Ukrainian city of Pokrovsk, which provides critical rail and supply links for the Ukrainian army. Losing Pokrovsk could put additional Ukrainian cities at risk. While Kursk has put Russia on the defensive, "we know Putin's malice runs deep," Mr. Austin cautioned in prepared remarks to the media before the Ukraine Defense Contact Group met. Moscow is pressing on, especially around Pokrovsk, Mr. Austin said.

Recent deadly airstrikes by Russia have renewed Mr. Zelensky's calls for the U.S. to further loosen restrictions and obtain even greater Western capabilities to strike deeper inside Russia. However, the meeting Friday was expected to focus on resourcing more air defense and artillery supplies and shoring up gains on expanding Ukraine's own defense industrial base, to put it on more solid footing as the final days of Joe Biden's U.S. presidency wind down.Mr. Zelensky said he would continue to press for the long-range strike capability. "Strong long-range decisions by partners are needed to bring the just peace we seek closer," Mr. Zelensky said Friday on Telegram. Western partner nations were working with Ukraine to source a substitute missile for its Soviet-era S-300 air defense systems, Mr. Austin said. The U.S. is also focused on resourcing a variety of air-to-ground missiles



that the newly delivered F-16 fighter jets can carry, including the Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile, which could give Ukraine a longer-range cruise missile option, said Bill LaPlante, the Pentagon's top weapons buyer, who spoke to reporters traveling with Mr. Austin. No decisions on the munition have been made, LaPlante said, noting that policymakers would still have to decide whether to give Ukraine the longer-range capability."I would just put JASSM in that category, it's something that is always being looked at," LaPlante said. "Anything that's an airto-ground weapon is always being looked at." For the past two years, members of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group have met to resource Ukraine's mammoth artillery and air defense needs, ranging from hundreds of millions of rounds of small arms ammunition to some of the West's most sophisticated air defense systems, and now fighter jets. The ask this month was more of the same but different in that it was in person, and followed a similar in-person visit Thursday in Kyiv by Biden's Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finer as Mr. Zelensky shores up U.S. support before the administration changes. Since 2022, the member nations together have provided about \$106 billion in security assistance to Ukraine. The U.S. has provided more than \$56 billion of

Kamala Harris's ex-lover gifted her BMW, says US tabloid, tries to dig up past



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

When she was 29, US Vice President and Democratic presumptive nominee Kamala Harris was gifted a BMW and made a trip to Paris with her ex-partner Willie Brown. The Democratic Party Kingmaker, Willie Brown, 60, was the Speaker of the California State Assembly. An American tabloid has dug out the past amid election campaigning. Everybody likes a BMW and a trip to Paris. Kamala Harris, then 29, was no different. She was not just gifted a BMW but also went on a romantic trip to Paris with her ex-partner, Willie Brown. The 60-year-old Democratic Party kingmaker was the Speaker of the California State Assembly. An American tabloid, The New York Post, has dug up the past related to Harris during the crucial campaign for the US Presidential election and when her approval ratings have overtaken Republican candidate Donald Trump's.

"Over the course of the relationship, Brown gave Harris a BMW, she travelled with him to Paris, attended the Academy Awards," and took her for a business trip to Boston, as he was meeting Donald Trump, according to the 2021 book by journalist Dean Morain, 'Kamala's Way: An American Life'. So, the tabloid is revisiting a book that has been gathering dust since 2021. There was absolutely nothing illegal about the relationship, and the tabloid's raking up the past is an attempt at trying to sully Kamala Harris's reputation. The report is based on a 2021 book. The relationship was famous in San Francisco. The Chronicle even called Harris "the speaker's new steady" and the Los Angeles Times called her Brown's "frequent companion".In November 1994, Brown appointed Harris to the California Medical Assistance Commission, where she had a salary of \$72,000 a year and just had to attend monthly meetings.. She was working in the Alameda County District Attorney's office. Brown has taken credit for the political rise of the Vice President. He also showed support for Harris as the Democratic presidential nominee."Yes, we dated," said Brown, a two-term mayor of San Francisco in a 2019 article. "Yes, I may have influenced her career by appointing her to two state commis-

sions when I was Assembly speaker. And I certainly helped with her first race for district attorney in San Francisco."

Harris, a politician of Indian-Jamaican descent, became the District Attorney of San Francisco in 2003 and the Attorney General in 2010 and became the junior Senator in 2017. It was a moment of pride for the Jamaican and Asian community and her parents. Harris's parents were locked in a divorce battle for three years. Her mother, Shyamala Gopalan, filed for divorce from her father, Donald, in 1973. Kamala was 8 years old. "This early phase of interaction with my children came to an abrupt halt â•æ when, after a hard-fought custody battle â•æ the context of the relationship was placed within arbitrary limits imposed by a court-ordered divorce settlement based on the false assumption by the State of California that fathers cannot handle parenting," wrote her father in Jamaica Global in 2019. Gopalan, a breast cancer researcher from India, died in 2009. The documents of the divorce proceedings show how Kamala and her sister, Maya, spent summers and alternative Christmas and Easter with their father and their mother had full custody. The document also reveals other parts of the divorce. Gopalan got the family slide projector and phonograph records while Donald retained the three metal bookshelves,, filing cabinet and 750 dollars in cash.In 1976, Donald was served with a contempt case which was removed after he paid 32.50 USD for Maya's dental x-rays. Child support payments were also increased to \$160.KA-MALA HARRIS WAS WARM AND SPUNKY, SAYS CLASSMATEThe next year, Gopalan and her daughters shifted to Montreal as she had to take up a position at McGill University. The girls moved to Notre-Dame-des-Neiges, a French primary school, and then to Fine Arts Core Education (FACE), a bilingual school in Montreal. Harris took drama classes and violin classes, French horn and kettle drum, as per reports.

She was "warm and spunky" as a classmate, said Vicky Compton, who also went to FACE to NY Post. Harris went to Westmount High School in grades 10 and 11. The school also had other famous alumni, such as musician Leonard Cohen and Oscar-winning actress Norma Shearer. "She fit right in because there were people of different colours, backgrounds – that's where she wanted to be," said a classmate of Harris, Dean Smith, in an interview with NY Post. "She was pretty, but never dated anybody." "She was super-cool," said Smith, who also appreciated her "good sense of humour" and Harris was also popular in schoolAfter so many years, the American tabloid found the election time to be the opportune moment to highlight Kamala Harris's relationship. Well, things get real dirty and personal in election seasons.

Mob in UK attacks mosque, clashes with police over stabbing of 3 kids

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Large-scale violence erupted in Southport, England. following a vigil for three young girls who were killed in a knife attack at a Taylor Swift-themed dance workshop. Far-right protesters, incited by social media rumours linking the 17-year-old suspect to Islam, clashed with police and attacked a mosque. Violence erupted in Southport, England, as far-right protesters, believed to be affiliated with the English Defence League, clashed with police and attacked a mosque. The clashes took place after a vigil for three young girls -- six-year-old Bebe King, sevenyear-old Elsie Dot Stancombe and nine-year-old Alice Dasilva Aguiar -- who were killed in a knife attack at a Taylor Swift-themed dance workshop at the Hart Space studio in Hart Street on Monday. The protest was fuelled by social media rumours suggesting an Islamist link to Monday's stabbings. However, authorities have stated that the 17-year-old suspect, who was arrested on suspicion of murder and attempted murder, has no known links to Islam, reported the BBC. The disturbance began on Tuesday evening after a peaceful vigil was held in the town centre where more than 1,000 people gathered to pay tribute to the victims and express solidarity with those affected. However, a group of protesters gathered near a mosque after the rumours throughout the day, leading to a violent confrontation with police.

As the disorder escalated, the group attacked the front of the mosque by throwing bricks, bottles, fireworks, and rocks. Officers donned protective gear and used riot shields to defend themselves as wheelie bins and other objects were hurled at them. Additionally, a police vehicle was set on fire, reported the BBC.Thirty-nine Merseyside Police officers were injured, with 27 taken to hospital. Eight officers suffered serious injuries, including fractures, lacerations, and a suspected broken nose. Three police dogs were also injured, reported the Guardian.Home Secretary Yvette Cooper described the rioting as "violent attacks from thugs on the streets", while Southport MP Patrick Hurley condemned the actions of "thugs who had got the train in" and were using the deaths



of the children "for their own political purposes", reported BBC. Assistant Chief Constable Alex Goss described the violence as "sickening" and appealed for anyone with information or video footage to come forward to help identify those responsible. The Home Secretary warned about disinformation linked to the attack, and the Muslim Council of Britain condemned the "shocking scenes of far-right rioters running amok outside a mosque" as an Islamophobic backlash. UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer said those who rioted would "feel the full force of the law" and had "hijacked the vigil for the victims with violence and thuggery". He added that they had "insulted the community as it grieves". The Home Secretary described the attacks on police officers as "appalling" and "a total disgrace". In response to the violence, a 24-hour Section 60 Order was put in place, giving police extra stop and search powers. A Section 34 Order was also introduced, allowing police to direct people engaging in antisocial behaviour away from the area. Extra officers will remain in the area to provide a visible presence and reassure communities. The violence has left the community of Southport reeling, with residents expressing fear for their safety as stones flew past and police officers rushed to put on riot gear. The incident has sparked widespread condemnation, with the Muslim Council of Britain calling for unity against "the cynical forces of hatred and division", reported The Guardian.

China's emissions nearing peak, says U.S. climate envoy

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

As climate envoys from the world's top two greenhouse gas producers meet in Beijing this week, experts say China's emissions may finally be nearing their peak.US climate envoy John Podesta will be looking to solidify Beijing's commitments — which include topping out its planet-warming emissions by 2030 — as he meets this week with counterpart Liu Zhenmin.

But with Beijing installing renewable capacity at record speed, and a construction slump dragging down emissions-heavy steel production, there are signs China could hit the peak early, though uncertainties remain. "So much clean electricity... is being added that China can peak its emissions right now, if those additions are maintained and if overall energy demand growth moderates," said Lauri Myllyvirta of the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA). China is building almost twice as much wind and solar energy capacity as every other country combined, data showed earlier this year.

That breakneck installation saw it hit a target for wind and solar capacity in August, six years ahead of schedule. And while coal remains king in China's electricity system, there are signs the world's second-biggest economy may be weaning itself off the fossil fuel.

Coal power permits fell 83 percent in the first half of this year, and no new coal-based steelmaking projects were approved in the same period. China is the world's top emitter and biggest consumer of coal, making its progress central to global climate goals, said Myllyvirta. "Whether China's emissions growth continues or turns into a decline is absolutely decisive for our ability to peak global emissions and start reducing them towards net zero," he told AFP. 'Establishing before breaking'

In addition to solar and wind, China's clean energy mix includes a significant amount of hydro and nuclear power. China is the world's fastest growing nuclear power producer, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency, and last month alone approved plans for 11 new nuclear reactors.

But despite the growth in non-carbon energy sources, China's demand for coal still jumped last year, helping drive a global increase. And coal-fired power generation is projected to grow again this year in China, albeit at the lowest rate in almost a decade, according to the International Energy Agency. "However, there is significant uncertainty concerning the availability of hydropower and the growth in power demand," it warned. Even as coal permits fell, construction began on more than 41

gigawatts of coal projects during the first half of 2024, CREA and Global Energy Monitor said. That nearly equalled 2022 levels and accounts for over 90 percent of new coal construction worldwide. The continued buildout reflects China's "cautious approach to its clean electricity transition," said Muyi Yang, senior electricity policy analyst at energy think tank Ember. That strategy is "characterised by 'establishing before breaking', first building a robust clean electricity system before phasing down fossil fuels", Yang told AFP. China has already seen drought hit hydropower output, something that is likely to become more frequent with climate change.

But as it builds out other renewable and non-carbon alternatives, its reliance on coal to plug gaps should decline, said Yang. "China is fast approaching this critical juncture. 'Long way to go'There are other headwinds, including grid and market reforms, and "opposition from vested interests", warned Myllyvirta. That could mean even massive renewable growth is insufficient to cover increasing demand. And it remains an open question whether a peak in China's emissions would be followed by a progressive decline, or merely a plateau.

Still, the direction of travel and signals from top leadership offer cause for some optimism, analysts say. A sur-



vey of 89 experts last year found the majority expected China to peak carbon emissions before 2030. However, China has declined to sign a global pledge to reduce methane emissions by at least 30 percent from 2020 levels by 2030. Podesta is expected to press his counterpart on efforts to reduce the potent greenhouse gas. The talks may also cover ongoing rows over China's domination of green manufacturing, which has sparked tariffs from Washington and elsewhere. "Those countries that don't want to be reliant on China for that supply still need to sort out their supply chains," Myllyvirta said. "They have a long way to go in that respect."

Mcap of BSE-listed companies jumps to lifetime peak of Rs 462.38 lakh cr



The market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies jumped to a lifetime peak of Rs 462.38 lakh crore on Wednesday helped by a four-day rally in benchmark indices. The 30-share BSE Sensex settled higher by 285.94 points or 0.35 per cent at 81,741.34 — its all-time closing high. In the last four trading sessions, the BSE benchmark jumped 408.62 points or 0.50 per cent, making investors richer by Rs 5.45 lakh crore.

Investors' wealth climbed Rs 5,45,337.02 crore in the past four days to reach a record high of Rs 4,62,38,008.35 crore (USD 5.52 trillion) on Wednesday. "Sebi's crackdown on Futures & Options trade is eminently desirable and can go a long way towards making the ongoing rally healthy and less speculative."The irra-

tional exuberance of the retail investors, particularly the newbies who entered market after the Covid crash, will do more harm than good to the overall market in the long run," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said. Therefore, these regulatory measures are to be welcomed, he added. Among the Sensex stocks, JSW Steel, Asian Paints, Maruti Suzuki India, NTPC, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, Bharti Airtel, ITC and Tech Mahindra were the major gainers. Reliance Industries, Tata Motors, Infosys, Mahindra and Mahindra, Bajaj Finance and Axis Bank were the laggards.

At the market close, the BSE smallcap gauge fell 0.14 per cent to the broader market. However, BSE MidCap gauge jumped 0.86 per cent. During the day, both the indices hit their all-time high level.Among the indices, Utilities surged 1.57 per cent, Power by 1.46 per cent, Metal by 1.12 per cent, Healthcare by 0.91 per cent and Commodities by 0.74 per centEnergy, Telecommunication and Realty were the laggards. As many as 2,051 stocks advanced, while 1,897 declined and 88 remained unchanged.Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth Rs 3,462.36 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data.

At 70%, India second most optimistic market after Singapore

At least 7 out of 10 urban Indians believe that their country is moving in the right direction, making India (70 per cent) the second most optimistic market, only after Singapore (86 per cent), a survey report said. India was closely followed by Indonesia, third most optimistic country with 69 per cent people having a positive opinion about the country's future, said the findings. Findings of the July wave of Ipsos Global Advisor What Worries the World survey stated that global citizens were highly pessimistic about the future, with only 38 per cent believing their country is headed in the right direction. The least optimistic markets were Peru (10 per cent), France (20 per cent), Israel (21 per cent) and Japan (22 per cent).

Indians continued to worry about unemployment (39 per cent), inflation (38 per cent), education (24 per cent), financial/political corruption (22 per cent), and crime and violence (21 per cent). However, 83 per cent of Indians described the state of their country's economy as good.On the contrary, global citizens were worried about inflation (33 per cent), crime and violence (30 per cent), poverty and social inequality (29 per cent), unemployment (28 per cent) and financial/political corruption (26 per cent). Their confidence around their economies was also abysmally low at 37 per cent. Amit Adarkar, CEO, Ipsos India said, "With the new government at the Centre, India has further bolstered its ranking by emerging the second most optimistic market in the world, with majority of the citizens confident of the future of India and the positive direction in which it is headed. Worries around some of the key



issues remain, like around unemployment, inflation and education. The corpus earmarked for skilling will make the youth job ready, armed with desired skillsets for different sectors. Inflation is being tackled by the government by taking adequate measures to keep a check on food prices. Likewise for education, in the Budget there is emphasis on new institutes of professional courses being created. Confidence around the domestic economy is also significantly high among Indians as compared to global markets."Ipsos' What Worries the World survey tracks public opinion on the most important social and political issues across 29 countries, drawing on over ten years of data to place the latest scores in context. The global report presents the top concerns around the world, along-side whether people think things in their country are heading in the right direction.

Google takes on two domestic rivals as Indian maps' war heats up



Legal notices over alleged intellectual property theft, massive price cuts to lure developers, and India-specific changes - it's all happening in the digital maps market in the country. With at least three key players - one international and two domestic - fighting it out, the future of maps' domination in India hangs in the balance. Google Maps, MapMyIndia, and riding the nationalistic fervour, Ola Maps, all find themselves pitted against each other, with the end of the road being control of the lucrative digital mapping and navigation market in India. None can afford a wrong turn. The last two months have seen unprecedented action in the Indian maps market. MapMyIndia sent a legal notice to Ola alleging that the IPO-bound firm has "copied" its data and "reverse-engineered" its app to make Ola Maps. Earlier this month, Ola had exited from using Google Maps to its own mapping system in a bid to save money as its founder Bhavish Aggarwal drums up the need to have domestic champions. And Google, equipped with its deep pockets, has responded to the move by announcing a big price cut for developers. Map MyIndia's B2B advantage, Google's consumer dominationMapMyIndia is the oldest company of the three. In fact, the company, formally known as CE Info Systems, is older than the first version of Google itself, having started in 1994.

While MapMyIndia has a majority market share close to 80 per cent - in the automotive OEM space, Google rules the roads as far as consumer-end navigation is concerned. A number of applications that need maps and navigation data, such as ride hailing firm Uber, also rely on Google's system. MapMyIndia, on the other hand, powers consumer end navigation services such as Apple Maps. Even as Google's turn by turn navigation is considered to be fairly accurate, especially in major Indian cities, the fact that all Android phones come equipped with Google's suite of services, including its maps app also allows it to corner it a big market share in the consumer space. It is typically the only maps app that people use on their smartphones. While Google Maps is free for end-users, businesses have to pay for integrating it within their service. An alleged IP theftOn Monday, MapMyIndia, in a legal notice, alleged that Ola Electric breached their licence agreement In 2022, Ola Electric onboarded MapMyIndia to offer navigation services for its S1 Pro electric scooter.

"You have duplicated our client's API (application programming interface) and SDKs (software development kits) from proprietary sources belonging to our client to build OLA Maps. It is firmly stated that our client's exclusive data has been copied/derived by you to further your illegal motive and for your unjust commercial gains,"

MapMyIndia said in the legal notice. The notice asks Ola to cease and desist any use of API and map data developed by MapMyIndia and handover all written or electronic information, descriptive matter including drawings, specifications, descriptions, tapes, and documents related to their intellectual property. Ola has denied the allegations. "We would like to state unequivocally that these allegations are false, malicious and misleading. Ola Electric stands by the integrity of its business practices. We will suitably respond to the notice shortly," the company said in a statement. Ola move forces Google hand

Earlier this month, Ola's Aggarwal announced that his company was shifting from using Google Maps and shifting to its inhouse Ola Maps - which is currently being alleged of theft by MapMyIndia.Ola, however, has attributed OpenStreetMap on its app, indicating the Ola Maps solution has been built on top of it, along with proprietary data from Ola. OpenStreetMap is an open-source and free-to-use map, with an open licence. "We used to spend Rs 100 crore a year but we've made that 0 this month by moving completely to our in house Ola maps," Aggwarwal had posted on social media platform X. He had also announced APIs for developers to integrate Ola Maps within their service and move away from Google Maps.In response, Google introduced India-specific pricing for developers using the Google Maps platform with up to 70 per cent lower costs on most APIs. It also said that it was collaborating with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), offering developers building for ONDC up to 90 per cent off on select Google Maps Platform APIs. While Google's price cut was seemingly a direct response to Ola's moves, it also had an unintended consequence on MapMyIndia, highlighting the intertwined fate of the three competitors: when Google announced these price cuts, MapMyIndia's share fell close to 11 per cent during intraday trading. Aggarwal slammed Google's "belated" price cuts, and responded with a more aggressive price cut for Ola Maps. A few days later, Google also announced India-specific features on Maps, including a long-standing demand to show whether a particular flyover should be taken or not. The update also includes EV charging station information and Al-driven routing capability to reduce narrow road usage for four-wheeler drivers.

Rupee opens 2 paise higher at 83.95 against US dollar

Mumbai: Rupee rose by 2 paise to 83.95 against the US dollar in early trade on Friday amid a weaker dollar against major currencies overseas. An upward movement in the international crude oil prices, negative domestic equity markets and outflow of foreign capital capped gains in the local unit, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened 1 paisa higher at 83.96 against the greenback. The domestic unit had settled 4 paise higher at 83.97 the rupee had breached the crucial 84-mark for the second time within a month and settled 3 paise lower at 84.01 against the American currency.

'Purpose of comprehensive review of Income-tax Act is to ease, simplify taxation': Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra



Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra has said that the government is committed to simplifying the Incometax Act and the "comprehensive review" being undertaken may see a possible move in favour of a new tax code. The form and shape that it will take would be decided in the due course. In an interview with Aanchal Magazine, Malhotra said the purpose is to make the tax regime simple, easy to read, understand, while making it easy to implement for the tax authorities, thereby reducing litigation and disputes. Edited excerpts:

Were you expecting backlash on the indexation proosal?

Yes, some kind of backlash is expected. See what happens is there is a very small minority of people, majority of the people are welcoming it, but they are silent, they don't come out so vociferously because they stand to gain

But do you think somewhere some clarity is missing?

The part that it is grandfathered till 2001 is not stated clearly. We have been talking about it. There is always scope for better communication, multiple means of communication. So many people are there, to reach out to them is a challenge. So we try to do it and we will also be having our teams going down at the state level.

Is the possibility of this grandfathering cutoff 2001 being brought forward?

That was discussed. But it was decided against. Because taxation, you know, this taxation is actually prospective. Those who sold before this stage (July 23), they got the benefit of the rates that existed. We have not introduced any retrospective taxation. So to give now a benefit of the tax rate which exists today retrospectively, you know, a lower tax rate for some, that also should not be done. You have said that 88 per cent of the capital gains income is earned by those who have income of more than Rs 1 crore. Yes. So, this tax is actually on the upper middle and the upper income classes. See, the income from the property that you sell, house property or commercial property, whatever it may be. You sell one property, you buy another house property with the capital gains of the proceeds, then there is no tax in the same city or in another city. You shift residence, there is no tax. You had, let's say, Rs 10 lakh, you bought a house, you sold it for Rs 1 crore or Rs 50 lakh or Rs 30 lakh, whatever and you keep it with you. You don't reinvest in (property), you reinvest in shares, let us say. You got that money, Rs 20 lakh or Rs 50 lakh or Rs 60 lakh, depending on the gain, it's an income. Now, if you had invested that money in shares. Rs 10 lakh, and you are getting back Rs 40 lakh or Rs 30 lakh it is taxed even if you invest it in some other share. So why should this Rs 30 lakh be treated differently when it is coming from house property vis-à-vis if it is coming from shares or any other method. You give me one reason, economic reason. If you reinvest it in a house, it is not taxed. Yes that limit is Rs 10 crore. Beyond Rs 10 crore, it is taxed, which earlier was 20 per cent with indexation. Now the indexation goes away but the rate reduces, so that is fair. Slightly higher or slightly lower or maybe very lower also, depending on now much the property has escalated. If the escalation is much higher than the inflation, they stand to gain. If the escalation is not there or is less, vis-à-vis the inflation, then maybe there is a little more tax. But the tax is only 12.5 per cent, it is not 30 per cent or 39 per cent (as it's) for those who are above Rs 2 crore, which they pay when they get a salary. Someone who gets an income of Rs 1 or 2 or 3 crore, out of this, he will pay only 7-8 per cent or 12.5 per cent. So, this is basically, number one, a simplification exercise. Number two, a removal of tax arbitrage among different asset classes. Number three, a slight reduction in the difference between the tax on capital gains vis-à-vis tax on other income.

Were the numbers too high for capital gains?

In 2022-23, we got around Rs 1.06 lakh crore from both long term and short term capital gains.

What is the split between short term and long term capital gains?

Short term is about Rs 20,000 crore, remaining is long term capital gains. And why is it 12.5 per cent? It's somewhere in between kind of a number. You would have asked me the same question had we done any other number. So, it's a very small increase. We did not want to burden the taxpayers too much.

Was there any kind of concern about evasion or probably laundering in this indexation provision that people were probably misusing it?

No. Generally, people buy and sell at circle rates. The circle rates may be low or high, whatever it is, but people buy generally at circle rates. So the evasion angle, to that extent, is mitigated. If they are selling or buying at higher rates than that, then it was there earlier, and even now it will remain. For listed shares, it is already through the market exchanges, so there is no issue. 2.5 per cent is not too high to increase the tendency of evasion.

But the apprehension, which industry players are saying, is that it may result in a rise in cash transactions in real estate, wherever circle rates are lower. Would you agree with that?

My understanding is that generally people buy and sell at the circle rate. 2.5 per cent is a small change.

What about the comprehensive review of the I-T Act? You have said that it's not going to be a new direct tax code, it will be a comprehensive review...It may or may not be. Most probably it will be the same but we may opt for a new code. I mean if we change the name, it becomes a new Act. What form and shape (it will take) is not decided. But what has been decided is that we will review it within a period of six months. The purpose is to make it simple, the purpose is not to substantially change because we have been making changes year on year. We have been plugging wherever loopholes are there. We have been simplifying. The primary purpose here is to simplify, make it easy to read, understand, make it easy to implement for the tax authorities, easy to comply for the taxpayers, tax practitioners, to reduce the compliance burden, reduce the litigation and the disputes. So it is

hasically that

In previous budgets, revenue buoyancy was projected greater than one. This year it has been kept closer to one. So is a slowdown in revenue collections expected, especially GST?

See, year on year it is actually not possible to have high buoyancy because efficiencies, the impact is visible in that year only. Once it is there, that level is set, so that benefit is there available for years to come but it doesn't show in as a buoyancy. Any gains in efficiency, once I get it, then I have got it forever. It will not mean that the buoyancy will again be high. That will be a result of further gains in efficiency. So to expect gains in efficiency year after year after year of the rates that we got is not a theoretical possibility.

GST collections have come down a bit, especially the pace of growth. So going ahead, do you expect it to further taper off?

Growth is there, maybe the growth rate, there will be some ups and downs in the growth rate.

In this whole indexation and capital gains proposal, some experts are saying that you are tightening the net around the same set of people in terms of taxpayers. It's not an expansion of the tax base. A significant number of people are still out of the tax net. As you are aware, the number of taxpayers has actually increased, whether it is the direct taxes or indirect taxes. The numbers have actually increased and the endeavour is to further increase it. A lot of it will also happen through other means, not necessarily taken by the Department of Revenue or the tax departments, which is, the formalisation of the economy as it happens, the increase in the digital public infrastructure etc. All those things will help in expansion of the tax

In Customs tweaks, is there a directional change? Generally we have seen rates going up over the last ten years. There have been corrections for inverted duty structure, simplification in terms of input sources but in terms of the trajectory downwards, is that something a one off or you see it continuing?

No, here Customs duties basically we are saying rationalisation. It doesn't mean that we will reduce the rates. What it means is that we will try wherever there is a duty inversion, we will correct it. Number of rates in Customs, can we reduce the number of rates? That is the primary exercise so that the classification disputes reduce.

There has been a sharp duty cut for gold. Will there be a commensurate reduction in duty for gold findings also?Do you expect that this will reduce smuggling?

The primary purpose is to promote this industry because it is a labour-intensive industry. That is the primary purpose. Yes, we do expect that smuggling will also come down. Smuggling was at historic highs. Last year, we did huge seizures, record seizures. We expect that it will reduce but the primary purpose is to promote this industry.

Also, was there a concern about gold being smuggled through the MFN (most favoured nation) route especially though some African countries?

That came in quite late in the day. The decision had been already taken. That is a kind of incidental benefit.But the routes were being used to smuggle gold...Yes. It will help reduce that. Decriminalisation for many provisions has been doneWe believe in a trust-based tax administration. An administration which is not confrontationist and is more collaborative. We have got the Vivad se Vishwas scheme, rather than disputes there should be trust. We have raised monetary limits. We have decriminalised, de-penalised certain provisions under the Black Money Act, decriminalised TDS and compounding provisions. Effort today is to use more and more technology, faceless assessment is one example, GSTN is another example. Make it as far as possible convenient for our taxpayers, to pay their taxes, they are doing a great job. I need to recognise their efforts and that will be the guiding philosophy. Block reassessments have been brought back even as they were termed as a failure earlier...There were some issues and whatever were the reasons for failure, those have been corrected now. Previously what was happening was that only the evaded income was being assessed and the other regular assessment was also going simultaneously. So that has been merged now, so it will be done together now. This was the primary

Gadkari urges Nirmala to withdraw 18% GST on life, medical insurance premiums



New Delhi: Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has requested Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to withdraw the 18 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) on life and medical insurance premiums. In his letter to the Finance Minister, Gadkari raised concerns of the Nagpur Division Life Insurance Corporation Employees Union, which had submitted to him a memorandum regarding the issues of the insurance industry. Referring to the memo, the Minister said, "Levying GST on life insurance premiums amounts to levying tax on the uncertainties of life. The Union feels that the person who covers the risk of life's uncertainties to give protection to the family should not be levied tax on the premium to purchase cover against this risk." Further, he added that the main issue raised by the union is related to the withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premiums. Both life insurance and medical insurance premiums are subject to an 18 per cent GST rate. He further said, "Similarly, the 18 per cent GST on medical insurance premiums is proving to be a deterrent for the growth of this segment of business which is socially necessary." In view of the above, you are requested to consider the suggestion of withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premium on priority as it becomes cumbersome for senior citizens as per rules with due verification," he said

Hina Khan says she is facing 'so many problems': 'Can't even eat properly without feeling pain...'



Hina Khan, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer, keeps her fans updated about her health. Recently, the actress took to her Instagram handle to share how "everything hurts" and she is facing "so many problems". Hina shared two pictures of herself, where she flaunted her smile and said, "I choose to smile and encourage myself."In the photos, the actress dressed in an athleisure can be seen smiling at the camera, as the marks on her body can be seen. In the caption, she revealed, "Everything Hurts, Lekin smile nahi jaani chahiye.. Haina? (But, we cannot let go of the smile)." She further shared, "So many problems, can't even Eat properly without feeling pain. But that's No reason to be negative. I choose to Smile and encourage myself. I tell myself that all this will be over and we will get through this."Recently, the Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai actress revealed that she is suffering from another side effect of chemotherapy-Mucositis. Hina, in a post, informed that she is following the doctors advice to treat it. However, she requested her fans to suggest some "useful remedies". "It's really hard when you can't eat. It will greatly help," added Hina.

Mucositis is a painful inflammation of the mucous membrane lining the mouth, throat, esophagus, stomach, intestines, and rectum. Hina Khan rose to fame with her character Akshara in Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai. She then went on to take part in reality shows Khatron Ke Khiladi and Bigg Boss. Hina was also seen in a couple of music videos as well as films. On June 28, Hina took to her Instagram handle to share a long note revealing her cancer diagnosis. She wrote, "I have been diagnosed with Stage Three Breast Cancer. Despite this challenging diagnosis, I want to reassure everyone that I am doing well. I am strong, determined, and fully committed to overcoming this disease."

Tumbbad re-release trailer: Sohum Shah is back to search an old treasure, but the monster still awaits.

Tumbbad Movie Re-release Trailer: The greed is hungrier, but so is the monster. Makers of the folk horror film Tumbbad dropped a new trailer of the acclaimed film as it gears up for a re-release in cinemas next week. Originally released in 2018, Tumbbad slowly charmed viewers, taking them into its original world of mythology and horror.

The film has since then enjoyed a royal status among cinephiles, who have praised the film for its story, cinematography and world building. The movie will now rerelease on September 13.

The revamped trailer of the film features a new voice over by actor-producer Sohum Shah, who re-introduces the audience to Tumbadd and the legend. "The cycle of time is amusing. what has gone by, will keep returning," the voice over says, perhaps cheekily also referring to the film's re-release after six years. The trailer, which is cut knowing in mind that a section has already seen the film while others have definitely heard about it, then deep dives into the past and present, as it showcases the myth, the horror and the monster of Tumbadd. The team also dropped a new poster of Tumbadd which featured an old lady entangled in dark, twisted branches. Presented by Eros Now, Tumbbad is directed by Rahi Anil Barve, with



Anand Gandhi as the creative director and Adesh Prasad as the co-director. Written by Mitesh Shah, Prasad, Barve, and Gandhi, the film was produced by Sohum Shah, Aanand L. Rai, Mukesh Shah, and Amita Shah. The film also stars Jyoti Malshe and Anita Date-Kelkar. Tumbbad is among the many Bollywood films which are re-releasing after Ranbir Kapoor's Rockstar, Imtiaz Ali backed Laila Majnu, Rehna Hai Terre Dil Mein, Anurag Kashyap's Gangs of Wasseypur. Interesting, Tumbbad will clash at the box office with Shah Rukh Khan's Veer Zara, which was directed by Yash Chopra.

Strange Darling movie review: An impressively crafted thriller



We meet her as she runs out of the woods, the green behind her, dressed all in red, blonde hair matted, fear written on her face, tears streaking down her cheeks. The image can't be starker, our fears never more sure – about Little Red Riding Hoods and Big Bad Wolves.Strange Darling is a film about a serial killer that hopes to surprise you at every twist of its turn, starting from that shot of 'The Lady' (Fitzgerald) trying to escape 'The Demon' (Gallner). Those are the only identities writer-director Mollner gives its two leads, who are thrown together in dangerous foreplay and then a combat that switches - and switches back - moods, tones and power dynamics so subtly and constantly, that the couple are not the only ones unsettled. After opening the film with a declaration that it's about the final few days of a serial killer's rampage across several American states, between the years 2018 and 2020 - giving it a patina of a true story, when it is not -Mollner goes on to tell the story via "six chapters", which are not in a linear form.

However, as the film unfolds, it is unclear why this non-linear structure is more than a stylistic flourish that can often be irritating. Like that foreplay, it keeps us guessing throughout about the motives and identities of the two leads, and what really brought them together on this risky one-night stand.

The director of photography is well-known character actor Giovanni Ribisi, in his first feature behind the camera. And his work here is impressive, right from the intimacy of the two leads flirting and feeling their way around each other in a car bathed in the blue of the hotel's neon light, to the danger that hangs in the air as they engage in role-play in a room with heavier, denser hues, to when they break free into the almost dazzling light of empty roads or the woody warmth of quaint cottages.It's in one such cottage where 'The Lady' lands up seeking

help that she meets an old couple (Hershey, Begley Jr) enjoying a leisurely, calories-loaded Sunday breakfast and solving a jigsaw puzzle, who too may not be all there. Variously, they describe themselves as "old hippies", "old bikers", "doomsdayers". Mollner wants us to rethink our assumptions about first appearances, gender stereotypes, bodily strength and violence. Before she checks into the hotel with 'The Demon', 'The Lady' tells him: "Do you know the kind of risks women like me run every time we go into a room like this?"It's an interesting thought. However, while he asks the right questions, Mollner isn't really interested in getting too deep into them. And somewhere in the "epilogue", after the six chapters are over, the film stops being smart about its gender politics and is just lazy. There is one too many killing, needless dialogue, and a mention of the devil that does no one any

'Super beauty', 'secret live-in' proposal: Charge sheet reveals startling details in K'taka fan murder case

Bengaluru: Bengaluru Police charge sheet has revealed that the victim, Renukaswamy, had asked Pavithra Gowda to have a secret live-in relationship with him over messages."You are hot. Hi, please send your number. What will you expect from me to see? Shall I send it? Wow, super beauty. Will you be in a secret live-in relationship with me? I will give you Rs 10,000 every month," reveals the 3,991-page charge sheet submitted to the court in connection with the sensational fan murder case involving Kannada superstar Darshan and his partner Pavithra GowdaThe charge sheet mentions that Pavithra Gowda, nable to handle the slew of vulgar messages and photos of Renukaswamy's private parts, asked another accused in the case, Pavan, to deal with Renukaswamy's messages.To track down Renukaswamy, Pavan started chatting with him under the guise of Pavithra Gowda. Accused Pavan chatted with much leniency to dig out his whereabouts and asked Renukaswamy to send his pictures outside the pharmacy

Shama Sikander reveals she suffered from depression: 'I even tried to die by suicide'

Shama Sikander, who disappeared from the small screen at the peak of her career, recently opened up about what made her quit the television industry. The actress rose to fame with her music videos in the 90s. Her popularity got a boost with the lead role in the show Yeh Meri Life Hain. Yet, things soon went downhill.

In an interview with Pinkvilla, Shama claimed "burn out" was the real reason behind her sudden disappearance from acting. She explained, "I had worked without a break for quite a long time and it started to take a toll on my mental health. I started to feel uneasy and I decided to stay indoors. I stopped going out and socializing. I was going through depression and even tried to commit suicide but thankfully my parents saved me at the nick of time."

Shama Sikander also detailed her battle with depression. Sharing the reason behind feeling depressed, the actress said, "I feel the industry has a lot of unrealistic expectations from people. It requires you to be what they perceive of you and slowly and steadily you lose yourself completely in the darkness. When I felt the burnout, I gave



up the stardom and industry and took my own time for healing." Sharing another reason, Shama claimed she was a people pleaser, which eventually took a toll on her. The actress claimed in early 2000s, there wasn't much awareness around depression. "My parents weren't able to gauge the reason for me wanting to be home and not being productive at all." However, they did support her during the dark phase.

Actor and BJP leader Krishna Kumar's daughter, social media celebrity Diya Krishna, ties the knot with Aswin Ganesh.



Diya Krishna made a unique appearance at the wedding, dressed in a pastel bronze saree, paired with a net dupatta over her head and a striking emerald green necklace. Diya Krishna and Aswin Ganesh with Diya's parents Krishna Kumar and Sindhu, and her siblings Ahaana Krishna, Ishaani and Hansika

Actor-politician Krishna Kumar and his wife Sindhu's second daughter, social media celebrity Diya Krishna tied the knot with her long-time boyfriend Aswin Ganesh in a traditional ceremony on Thursday, attended by their family members and close friends. Aswin, who works as an application development analyst at Accenture, and Diya held the event at a high-end hotel in Thiruyananthapuram

Diya made a unique appearance at the wedding, dressed in a pastel bronze saree, paired with a net dupatta over her head and a striking emerald green necklace. She chose minimal jewellery and subtle makeup. Her bridal saree, designed by Joyal Jacob Mathew, took a month to craft entirely by hand and cost nearly Rs 2 lakh. Aswin complemented her look in traditional Tamil groom attire, wearing a shirt, mundu (dhoti) and veshti matching the colour of Diya's saree. Diya's family, including her parents Krishna Kumar and Sindhu, along with her sib-

lings Ahaana Krishna, Ishaani and Hansika, wore elegani light pink outfits.

After the ceremony, Diya shared that it was she who chose to have a small, intimate wedding without a large crowd. Manorama Online reported that notable figures from the film and political spheres, such as Suresh Gopi and Suresh Kumar, were in attendance. Krishna Kumar expressed his deep joy at his daughter's wedding, explaining that they would not be hosting any additional celebrations, emphasising that the Covid-19 pandemic taught them the value of a simple and modest wedding. Aswin proposed to Diya on January 23 and she eagerly accepted. Since then, the couple has been actively planning their wedding. According to Mathrubhumi, they also recently participated in a traditional Thali Puia at Aswin's family temple in Nagercoil, with his parents in attendance.Krishna Kumar, a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), was the party's candidate for the Thiruvananthapuram constituency in the 2021 Kerala Legislative Assembly election and for the Kollam Lok Sabha constituency in the 2024 general election, but was unsuccessful in both races. While Diya's sisters Ahaana and Ishaani are actors, the entire family is well-known on social media, though they have occasionally run into controversies for casteist and elitist remarks.

Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh visit Siddhivinayak temple ahead of due date.

A day ahead of Ganesh Chaturthi, parentsto-be Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone on Friday visited the Siddhivinayak temple with their families. Deepika, who is due this month, was seen draped in a beautiful green silk saree. It had a golden thread work on it. Meanwhile, Ranveer was seen complimenting her in an off-white kurta set.

Deepika Padukone just wore a pair of earrings to complete her look. She gracefully hid her baby bump behind the pallu of her saree. Videos of the couple's visit to the temple are being widely shared online.In one video, the couple can be seen walking towards the temple. Deepika was seen greeting people outside the temple. Ranveer followed his wife and greeted people around them. He then slowly guided Deepika inside the temple, walking hand-inhand.Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone are due this month. The couple announced their first pregnancy on February 29, just hours before heading to Jamnagar to attend the pre-

wedding festivities of Anant



In one video, the couple can be seen walking towards the temple. Deepika was seen greeting people outside the temple. Ranveer followed his wife and greeted people around them. He then slowly guided Deepika inside the temple, walking hand-in-hand.

Ambani and Radhika Merchant. The couple, in a joint Instagram post, shared a cute postcard that had the text "September" written on it, while drawings of little baby accessories were present on the card. This

will be the couple's first baby together after their marriage in 2018.On the work front, Deepika was recently seen in Nag Ashwin's sci-fi drama Kalki 2898 AD, also starring Prabhas. The actress will

soon be seen in Ajay Devgn-starrer Singham Returns. The film will also feature her husband and actor Ranveer Singh, who will reprise his role as Simmba. The film is set for a Diwali release.

Ajaz Patel, New Zealand's sub-continent specialist, eyes another sweet homecoming



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Almost three years ago, Ajaz Patel became only the third cricketer to claim 10 wickets in a Test innings after Jim Laker and Anil Kumble. It was a sweet homecoming for New Zealand's India-born spinner Ajaz Patel, but despite his heroics at the Wankhede, he has failed to become Blackcap's leading spinner. Since that match against India in Mumbai, New Zealand have played 19 Tests and Ajaz has featured only in five of them. The 35year-old has played 16 Tests so far out. Eleven of them have been in the sub-continent.

In the next two months, New Zealand are set to play six Tests in the sub-continent, starting with a one-off Test against Afghanistan in Greater Noida next week, followed by two Test matches in Sri Lanka and then will return to India again for a three-match Test series. Patel, who has predominantly been as a sub-continent specialist, will have a chance to feature in all six Tests and make the most out of it. Interestingly, it could also be the first time when the left-arm spinner can play this many Test matches on the trot, "If you ask all New Zealand spinners, it is difficult sometimes. Obviously you don't get as many opportunities at home because of our home conditions," Patel told reporters ahead of their first training session at the Greater Noida Sports Complex.

"At the same time, I guess it breeds more hunger when you know conditions are spin friendly and you're quite hungry to get out there and play and put your best foot forward and perform. But It's really important that you prepare accordingly and prepare well. So it's just about going into these games and really enjoying the conditions and making the most of it."Out of his 62 scalps, Ajaz has taken 58 wickets in the sub-continent. Although he admitted that it's frustrating how he has failed to cement the spot of his side's leading spinner since his historic

"I guess after the 10 wickets, obviously you're a little bit disappointed because you don't get as many opportunities but at the same time as a player, it's still about growing your game and it's an opportunity to develop and grow," he said. "I mean since my 10 wickets, I've kind of somewhat remodelled my run up and look to grow myself and try and get better. So, it's always about improving, making sure that you're ready whenever that next opportunity comes and putting your hand up. It's always a privilege to play for New Zealand and certainly playing for your country. It's never easy to get those opportunities, It's always quite special."The next two months are going to be crucial for the inaugural World Test Championship winners. New Zealand are currently placed in third place. Although the one-off Test against Afghanistan will not come under WTC matches, it will give them a good opportunity to prepare for the tougher challenges against Sri Lanka and India.

"We know Afghanistan are a quality team and obviously they don't have as much experience, but they'll certainly put up a good fight and certainly grow from every experience that they get and have. So yeah, we're definitely not gonna take them lightly and then, you know, there's a lot of cricket to look forward to," said Ajaz. This could be Ajaz's last trip to India as a cricketer, because as per the International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's Future Tours Programme (FTP), New Zealand's next trip to the sub-continent for Test matches is in February 2027, and by the time he would have turned 38.In an exuberant press conference, Ajaz spoke about how special it is for him to come back to India after what he did in his last outing in the country of his birth. And if this turns out to be his last tour here with the Blackcaps, he would certainly be looking for another dream homecoming.

The New Zealand Cricket on Friday roped in former India batting coach Vikram Rathour and Sri Lanka spin great Rangana Herath as members of their coaching staff ahead of Tests against Afghanistan and Sri Lanka. Herath, who has taken 433 Test wickets, has been appointed for Tests against Afghanistan and Sri Lanka as New Zealand's spin bowling coach. "Sri Lankan spin maestro Rangana Herath has been appointed as spin-bowling coach for the three upcoming Tests in Asia, replacing former Pakistan spinner and coach Saqlain Mushtaq who was originally announced to fill the temporary role before pulling out to take up a position with the Pakistan Cricket Board," New Zealand Cricket said in a statement.On Herath's appointment as spin-bowling coach, Ajaz Patel said: "To be honest, if you look at me and you look at him, it was pretty similar in terms of the build and the body type and stuff like that." "And when I was developing and growing my spin, I kind of watched him with a lot of admiration. So it's special to have him here and I guess for me it's a great opportunity to spend some time with him and understand how he crafted his spin bowling. He was very successful and a phenomenal bowler. So it's just a great opportunity for me personally to learn a lot from him."Meanwhile, Rathour, who had a successful run as India's batting coach under head coach Rahul Dravid will be with the New Zealand team only for the one-off

Rahul Dravid appointed head coach of Rajasthan Royals

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Dravid's tenure as India's head coach ended in June after he helped the Men in Blue win the T20 World Cup, their first ICC title since the Champions trophy in 2013. "The former Royals' captain and coach spent five seasons with the franchise from 2011 to 2015, and will commence with the team immediately, working with Royals' director of cricket Kumar Sangakkara to implement the franchise's overall cricketing strategy," the Royals said in a statement.

Dravid was the captain of the Royals in IPL 2012 and 2013 and then was the team director and mentor for them in the 2014 and 2015 seasons. After leaving the Royals in 2016, Dravid had signed with the Delhi Daredevils and stayed there till 209 when he was named the head of the National Cricket Academy. He was appointed the coach of the Indian cricket team in 2021 and recently ended his tenure after 3 years. "After the World Cup, I feel it's the ideal time for me to take on another challenge, and the Royals is the perfect place to do that," Dravid said after returning to RR. "His exceptional coaching capabilities are evident with the transformation he's driven in Indian cricket. He also has a deep connection to the franchise, and we've seen that passion come through in all our conversations," Jake Lush McCrum, CEO of the Royals Sports Group said. "Rahul has already got to work with Kumar (Sangakkara) and the rest of the team, as we



prepare for this exciting new period for the franchise starting with IPL retention and the auction just around the corner," he said. "We have made fantastic progress in our on-field performance over the past few years, but there is still lots to learn, improve and grow. His return will, hopefully, further accelerate our progress and will be a great boost for everyone involved, most importantly our players and our fans," said lead owner Manoj Badale.Sangakkara said, "Rahul is one of the greatest players to have played the game, but what he has achieved over the past decade as a coach is extraordinary." "The characteristics that he possesses as a coach to nurture talent but also enable them to consistently perform at the highest level, will allow the Rajasthan Royals to further challenge for the title," he added.

Musheer Khan falls 19 runs short of double century after weathering storm at Bengaluru in Duleep Trophy

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

MusheerBengaluru: India B team player Musheer Khan celebrates his century during the first day of Duleep Trophy 2024 match between India A and India B teams, at Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru,

Despite an overcast morning, a green texture to the M.Chinnaswamy wicket, and his side India B in trouble teenager Musheer Khan showed his temperament. With solid defense and crisp shot-making pulled his side out of the hole on Day 1. Carrying his bat overnight Musheer fell shot of 19 runs for his double hundred. A steady collapse which saw his team reeling at 94 for seven on Day 1 prompted Musheer to gradually unfurl his attacking range. Having devoured spin in the domestic and agegroup circuit, Musheer chose his battles wisely. He displayed admirable dexterity when he sliced and swept left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav and took on offspinner Tanush Kotian. The knock in the Duleep Trophy game is more of a check of temperament than Musheer's skill set. He churned out 360 runs at an average of 60 in the U-19 World Cup held earlier this year in South Africa where India lost in the final. later in the year, he won the Ranji Trophy with Mumbai. His ton in the final made him the youngest batter (19 years 14 days) to score a ton surpassing Sachin Tendulkar.

Similar game to elder Sarfaraz "My brother (Sarfaraz Khan) and I have the same game. I try to follow whatever he does. In the middle, he only asked me to follow my technique. Usne bola agar tere ko lagta aage bad sakta



hai, to aage bad kar khel (If you feel like moving forward, go ahead and do it)," Musheer said post Day-1 play. Despite the failure elder on Thursday brother Sarfaraz too has a habit of piling on big scores consistently. "Acha time chal raha hai, dunno bhai ka time chal raha hai (The fortunes of both brothers have changed). I don't want to think too much," Musheer said at the end of the day's play at the BKC ground earlier this year after scoring his maiden first-class ton.

"Bhai just said acha kiya hai ab tak par real cricket ab shuru hone wala hai. Taiyaar hona uske liye. (You have played well till now but the real cricket begins now. Be ready for it.) Just stay at the wicket and runs will come." Musheer would recall about the advice given to him by

After Pat Cummins and Johnny Grave, Michael Vaughan now becomes latest to advocate windows for Test matches



GNS News Agency, Sept 11

After Australian cricketer Pat Cummins, former West Indies CEO Johnny Grave, former England cricketer Michael Vaughan becomes the latest to advocate the idea of having a window for Test matches. With franchise cricket eating away a chunk of the cricketing calendar the Test tours have become smaller in terms of the number of matches played and preparation time for the touring teams ahead of the series.

"I would book three one-month windows into the schedule, where there's no franchise cricket, so Test cricket is the only show in town. Hopefully, that would persuade a few players to keep playing Test cricket rather than just sticking to franchise stuff year-round. In those windows, I'd have all the teams playing at the same time. Possibly, towards the end of a cycle, that could mean everyone playing concurrently in the same country, or on the same continent," wrote Vaughan in his Telegraph

tive, more appealing than international cricket. If I went and played franchise cricket, I could probably be away for a half or a third of the amount we are for Australia," Cummins said at the MCC World Cricket Connects 2024 at Lord's earlier this year. "In Australia, Test cricket is from November to January, and basically, no other cricket is going to get in the way of us playing Test cricket then. If we can have specific windows for IPL, but then also Test windows, that makes the decision-making for the players a lot easier," Cummins added.

"I support the concept of finding Test match windows, where there are periods in the year when only Test cricket is played and we have a number of series going on in different times," Grave echoed similar sentiments speaking to this publication earlier. "It might be a test match starting in Sydney or Wellington, then Kolkata or Dhaka followed by one starting at Lord's or Newlands and then one starting at Kennington Oval so eight Test teams, four Test matches filling up almost the entire 24hour clock." Grave added.

"Franchise cricket for some countries is more lucra-

Nathan Lyon says 'It's been an absolute privilege to play against' R Ashwin

GNS News Agency, Sept 11

Nathan Lyon and Ravichandran Ashwin are arguably the best red-ball spinners in the last decade. They have played pivotal parts for their sides over the years contributing to memorable wins. Both with a little over 500 test scalps will add to another sub-plot to the already narrative-filled Australia vs India Test series later this year."I know Ashwin and we debuted around similar times and we've competed against each other in a number of series now and between me and Ashwin I have got nothing but respect for him. I feel like I love watching him bowl, he's an absolute master in the craft of off-spin bowling and it's been an absolute privilege to play against him and learn from him." Lyon said speaking to Star Sports. Earlier in an interview, Lyon would acknowledge that Ashwin has been his biggest coach. "There's an opportunity to learn from the people you play against, and without knowing it he's probably been one of my biggest coaches in a way.'

What did Joe Root say on facing both?

England's Joe Root is arguably one of the best players of spin in world cricket and has faced substantial amounts of both Ashwin and Lyon over his career. Speaking of the difference in facing them he would say on Sky



Sports: "I'd say, Ashwin is making sure that you don't play the previous ball. He is very good at trying to drag you across the crease and get your nead to one side of it and beat both edges quite frequently""With Lyon it is all about, I think, especially in the first half of the Test match to get really over the top of the ball, get bounce bowl in between you like the knee roll and hit and try to bring short leg and leg slip into the game as much as he can and then just slowly, get slower with his pace and drift wider into that. There's that footmarks, um, Mitchell Starc has so kindly done for him for such a long period of time,"

Magnus Carlsen vs Hans Niemann: For 1st time since cheating scandal, rivals play face to face, but in online event in Paris

GNS News Agency,

Magnus Carlsen will take on Hans Niemann in Paris later on Friday in a grudge rematch after their acrimonious feud at the 2022 Sinquefield Cup, which had led to unsubstantiated cheating allegations against Hans Niemann, and a \$100m -lawsuit from the American against Norwegian. Magnus Carlsen and Hans Niemann will face off in the semi-final of Chess dot com's Speed Championship. The tournament's previous rounds were played online. But the

semi-finals and the final will be held across the board in a hybrid event where the opponents will sit opposite each other but play on separate computers. The other semi-final will see American GM Hikaru Nakamura take on French-Iranian star Alireza Firouzja.Reacting to his opponent in the semi-final,



Magnus Carlsen said that he would prefer a different -opponent. "He's playing quite well. But if I have a decent day I'll probably win without too -many issues," he shrugged."I'm looking forward to playing in Paris. This whole thing started on a chess board and it should end on the chess board," said Hans Niemann.The Norwegian is the favourite heading into the match. He is the reigning world blitz champion, having won the

title seven times. Hans Niemann is also considered a strong blitz player, and will have a point to prove.While Magnus Carlsen is ranked No 1 in the world (rated 2832 in classical, 2834 in rapid and 2888 in blitz), Hans Niemann is No 16 in classical (rated 2733 in classical, 2618 in rapid and 2709 in blitz).

The other semi-final will see two of the strongest contenders in this format -

Nakamura and Firouzja - battle it out. Each match will have 90 minutes of 5+1 blitz, 60 minutes of 3+1 blitz, and 30 minutes of 1+1 bullet.

What was the cheating controversy regard-Niemann?World No 1 Magnus Carlsen had pulled out of the Sinquefield Cup two years ago after losing to Hans Niemann.

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