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## Allu Arjun among top celebrity taxpayers, pays Rs 14 crore for FY24

Hyderabad: Telugu superstar Allu Arjun has emerged as one of the highest tax-paying celebrities in India for the financial year 2023-24, according to Fortune India's latest report. The actor, known for his strong fan base in South Indian cinema, is the only Telugu actor to make it to the list of top 22 celebrity taxpayers in the country. Allu Arjun, who gained widespread acclaim for his role in Pushpa: The Rise, paid Rs 14 crore in taxes, placing him among the top tax contributors from India's entertainment industry. Meanwhile, topping the list of tax-paying celebrities for FY24 is Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan, who paid a staggering Rs 92 crore in taxes.

## Jubilee Hills nets ultra-luxury home deals worth Rs 80 crore by mid-year

Hyderabad: Ultra-luxury home sales in Hyderabad have hit approximately Rs 80 crore in the first eight months of 2024, according to the latest data from real estate consultancy Anarock. Two major transactions in the city's upscale Jubilee Hills neighborhood accounted for this figure.

Anarock's report further reveals that a total of 25 ultra-luxury homes were sold across major Indian cities, including Mumbai, Hyderabad, Gurugram, and Bengaluru, during January-August. The combined sales value of these deals stands at approximately Rs 2,443 crore.

## J-PAL Global Executive Director Meets Telangana CM Revanth Reddy at AI Global Summit



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Hyderabad: Iqbal Dhaliwal, Global Executive Director of J-PAL (Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab), met Telangana Chief Minister K. Revanth Reddy at the AI Global Summit held at HICC, Hyderabad. The meeting explored potential collaboration between J-PAL and the Telangana government in the development of Hyderabad Future City, set to become the capital of the artificial intelligence (AI) sector. J-PAL, a leader in designing policies to improve lives based on scientific data, expressed interest in supporting the state's AI initiatives. With a global footprint, the organization has delivered over 800 policies across 80 countries, helping governments and organizations improve lives through evidence-based policymaking.

The meeting was attended by IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, MLA Madan Mohan Rao, IT Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, and representatives from J-PAL.

## Telangana floods cause extensive damage to irrigation infrastructure; loss put at Rs 350 cr



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Hyderabad: Floods in Telangana have caused significant disruptions and dislocation, with preliminary estimates indicating that the irrigation department has suffered losses between Rs 300 crore to Rs 350 crore. The full extent of the damage is yet to be assessed comprehensively. Two crucial pump houses of irrigation projects were severely affected. The Vattemvagu pump house under the Palamuru Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS) saw four installed pumping units and one unit under installation submerged. These pump houses, each with a capacity of 145 MW, are considerably larger than the Bahubali pumps used in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme. The dewatering process is expected to take over a month, with the entire surge pool and tunnel filled with flood runoff from nearby tanks. Fortunately, the power substation and other infrastructure at a higher elevation were spared from flood damage. In a related incident, the Bhakta Ramadasu Lift Irrigation Scheme (BRLIS) pump house in Khammam district also suffered extensive damage as flood waters entered the facility. This scheme, that was part of the first irrigation project completed during the BRS regime, serves an ayacut of 59,000 acres in the tail-end of the SRSP Stage II in Palair constituency. Officials are still assessing the damage to the two pumping units, which have a combined yield of 600 cusecs.

The pump house, set up in a record 11 months and commissioned in February 2017, will require repairs and restoration estimated to cost around ten percent of its original cost. Additionally, the Nagarjuna Sagar left canal developed breaches at three locations in Zones I and II due to the floods. Water releases to the canal have been halted to facilitate urgent repairs. These breaches are attributed to prolonged periods of non-use, with the canal network experiencing significant vegetation growth, weakening the structure and obstructing water flow. Officials warn that more breaches could occur once water is released at full capacity of 11,000 cusecs. The canal systems of SRSP and KLIS, which too had no water flows during the last Rabi season, may face similar issues. In total, 200 tanks developed breaches due to the recent floods, necessitating substantial expenditure for restoration and the number may rise once the enumeration was completed. Authorities are preparing estimates to address these breaches within a fortnight, emphasizing the need for regular maintenance and use of irrigation infrastructure to prevent such occurrences in the future.

## Narendra Modi meets Singapore counterpart Wong

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Apart from meeting his Singaporean counterpart Lawrence Wong, Mr. Modi oversaw the signing of MoUs including one on semiconductors that will help in supply chain resilience of semiconductors, and announced that the first Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre of India will soon open in Singapore as the two sides plan to celebrate the 60th anniversary of bilateral ties next year. Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed by Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong during the latter's ceremonial reception, at Parliament House, in Singapore. "Singapore is not just a partner country for India. Singapore is an inspiration for all developing countries. We want to create many Singapore in India," said Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a speech delivered in Hindi, adding,



"Singapore is a crucial part of our Act East policy. Shared democratic values connect both of us." Earlier, Prime Minister Modi who reached Singapore on Wednesday after visiting neighbouring Brunei was accorded a ceremonial welcome at the Parliament House of Singapore. In his official statement, Mr Modi paid tribute to the Indian-origin population in Singapore and said it provides a "solid foundation" to the bilateral relation. "We are forever grateful to Singapore for the respect that you have given to

tion, AI, Fintech, new technology domains, science and technology and knowledge partnership." Sources said that the two leaders also discussed the violence in Myanmar as part of consultation on the Southeast Asian region. The high point of the Prime Ministerial visit was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between India and Singapore on semiconductors. The MoU was signed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry of Singapore Gan Kim Yong and the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnav. In a statement, Singapore's Ministry of Trade and Industry said the MoU will help Singapore and India to "leverage complementary strengths in their semiconductor ecosystems and tap on opportunities to build resilience in their semiconductor supply chain".

## CBI made 'insurance arrest' to prevent release in excise policy case, Kejriwal tells Supreme Court

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday told the Supreme Court that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) made an "insurance arrest in hurry" to prevent his release on bail in the alleged excise policy scam case. Appearing for Kejriwal, senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi said that his client was released on three different occasions in the money laundering case registered under the stringent Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), where rigours for grant of bail are much higher. He referred to the 21-day interim release of the AAP supremo in May this year to campaign for the Lok Sabha elections, the interim bail granted subsequently by the top court on July 12, and the trial court order granting him regular bail, which was stayed later by the Delhi High Court on an "oral mention" made by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). Singhvi contended that the CBI did not arrest Kejriwal for two years since August 2022 but made an "insurance arrest in hurry" in anticipation of his release on bail in the money laundering case.

The CBI arrested Kejriwal for "his non-cooperation and evasive replies" but there were several apex court judgments that held that cooperation with the probe should not mean that the accused should incriminate himself and confess to the offences alleged, he said. He said 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," Singhvi submitted. Opposing the arguments, Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju, representing the CBI, said that Kejriwal should first approach the trial court for bail.

He argued that arrest is a part of investigation and ordinarily, an investigative officer will not require any permission from a court to make an arrest. "But, in the present case, there was an order of the court granting the power (to arrest)," he said. The bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan will assemble post lunch to resume hearing Kejriwal's pleas assailing CBI arrest and seeking bail. Meanwhile, a Delhi court on Tuesday took cognisance of the charge sheet filed by the CBI against CM Kejriwal and other accused in the alleged liquor policy scam. Special Judge Kaveri Baweja issued a production warrant for Kejriwal on September 11, apart from extending his custody till the same date.

## Islamic radicals want to make Bangladesh another Afghanistan: Taslima Nasreen

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

New Delhi: Expressing concern that Bangladesh might go the Afghanistan way, writer-activist Taslima Nasreen has said Islamic radicals are brainwashing and indoctrinating youths to make them "anti-India, anti-Hindu and pro-Pakistan". Nasreen said she and others had initially supported the students' movement in Bangladesh against an "autocratic government".

However, the recent actions such as violence against Hindus, targeting of journalists and the release of "terrorists" from jails showed it was not a students' movement but was "planned and funded by Islamic jihadis", she said. "When students protested against the quota system in July, we supported them... people who believe in women's rights, human rights and freedom of expression. Sheikh Hasina was an autocrat who always encouraged fundamentalists and curbed freedom of expression. People were angry with her," she told PTI in an exclusive interview.

She said they had hoped that a fair election would be conducted to democratically form a new government. "But afterwards we realised that it was not a students' movement. It was planned and funded by Islamist jihadis and banned terrorist organisation," said the author, who had to flee Bangladesh in 1994 following death threats from Islamic fundamentalists and faced a ban on her books. "We realised that after they started demolishing everything, all the statues, sculptures, museums. The way Hindus were attacked and killed, it was a nightmare.

"Now these people are filing cases against journalists and people who were close to Hasina. They are gradually showing their real faces and motives. All the terrorists, who were in jail, are released. It was not at all a students' movement," said the author. The Lajja author has not returned to Bangladesh since her exile and has been living in India since 2005 (except from 2008 to 2010). She also expressed apprehensions that Bangladesh could become another Afghanistan or Iran, going by the way the current interim government was operating under the guidance of Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus.

"Yunus says that they are celebrating their victory. People are burning houses of Hindus. What kind of celebration is this? They are destroying everything. All the statues of freedom fighters have been demolished including that of the father of the nation Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. "But the Pakistan Army's statues are intact — (the army) which killed 30 million people during the war and raped millions of women," said the 62-year-old writer, who is known for being an outspoken critic of radical Islamic elements.

She said Yunus knew "very well that the country would be ruled by jihadis and he has no problem with it." "While we thought that he would conduct an election. It didn't happen. They are not talking about secularism and they want to make Bangladesh like Afghanistan or Iran which is very scary," she said. Yunus had called for halting attacks on Hindus after he was named the head of the interim government, but Nasreen alleged that he didn't take any action against the violence.

## Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to undertake aerial survey of Khammam flood-affected areas



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Hyderabad: Union Minister for Agriculture Shivraj Singh Chouhan will undertake an aerial survey of the flood damage in Khammam district on Friday. Chouhan will be accompanied by Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay. They are scheduled to tour from 9 am. to 2 pm. They will be briefed by the officials concerned about the property loss during the recent heavy rains.

Later, Sanjay will proceed towards Kodad to assess the flood damage in the area at around 4 pm, according to an official release issued here on Thursday. Meanwhile, Union Coal Minister and State BJP chief G Kishan Reddy deputed two teams, led by Bandi Sanjay and party MP Etala Rajendar, to tour the flood-affected areas in the State. Sanjay's team will tour Khammam and Kodad along with former MLA Sankineni Venkateshwar Rao, BJP state general secretary Gujjula Premender Reddy and MLA Paidi Rakesh Reddy. Etala Rajendar's team will tour Mahabubabad and Mulugu along with the party's legislature party head Aleti Maheshwar Reddy, State general secretary Kasam Venkateshwarlu and MLA Ramarao Patil.

## Drinking water crisis hits Telangana due to lack of power to pump Mission Bhagiratha water

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Hyderabad: The disruption of power supply due to heavy rain and strong wind has halted the pumping of drinking water in several habitations across six districts of the State. The heavy rains in the last few days have severely disrupted drinking water supply networks, particularly in the districts of Khammam, Bhadrachalam, Kothagudem, Mahabubabad, Suryapet, Nizamabad, and Nagarkurnool. According to officials, due to power disruption people in over 5,000 habitations faced drinking water problems after heavy rain lashed the State on August 31. For the first three days people in these districts did not have access to drinking water through pipelines and they had to depend on other sources, the officials added. After restoration of power, drinking water supply has started in over 4000 habitations and efforts are being made by the power officials to restore power in other habitations as well. The power officials informed that drinking water supply was halted as in several places as substations submerged due to floods. They claimed that power supply restoration works were going on a war footing and that in the next 24-hours restoration works would be completed in the majority of the affected areas. Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL) Chairman and Managing Director Musharraf Ali Faruqi informed that the company suffered heavy losses in Suryapet district due to heavy rains. As many as 2127 electric poles, including 15 33 kv poles, 1074 11 kv poles, 1038 LT poles and 319 transformers were damaged due to rain and strong wind, he said. According to Telangana State Northern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGNPDCL) officials, except for some places in Khammam, Bhadrachalam, Kothagudem and Mahabubabad districts, the power had been restored in all the other districts under its jurisdiction. They ensured that in the next 24-hours power would be restored in all the areas in these three districts.

## Telangana govt educational institutions to get free electricity

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Hyderabad: The State government on Thursday announced free power supply to all government educational institutions in the State. An order to this effect has been issued by Secretary to Government (Energy department) D Ronald Rose.

For the scheme, which came into force immediately, the Telangana Discoms would create an online portal with logins given to respective departments of all the government educational institutions. As per modalities issued by the Energy department, secretaries of the department concerned would finalise the list of institutions to be covered in the scheme and include the same on the online portal. Monthly billing would be done for each institution and displayed in the department's login. Hard copy of the bill would be given to the respective institution in-charge, showing consumption in units and billed value, the order read.

# Indian Chronicle

English Daily

## Vigilante justice

THE recent killings in Haryana, allegedly at the hands of cow vigilantes, have reignited a critical debate on the dangerous interplay of religious fervour and law enforcement in India. In two incidents within a span of a few days in the state, a student of Class XII, Aryan Mishra, was gunned down and a 26-year-old migrant worker, Babir Malik, beaten to death by self-appointed protectors of the cow. Aryan was out with friends when they were chased by a group of cow vigilantes, who mistook them for cattle smugglers. The group was relentlessly pursued for 30 km before Aryan was shot dead in Faridabad. In the other tragic loss to senseless violence, Babir, suspected of eating beef, was lured to a bus stand and then lynched by the vigilantes in Charkhi Dabri.

These incidents are a part of a broader and disturbing trend that has taken root. Cow vigilantism, which ostensibly aims to protect an animal considered sacred in Hinduism, has increasingly become a pretext for extrajudicial violence, mostly targeting a minority community. Efforts have been made to curb it, including arrests and legal proceedings, Supreme Court directives for stricter enforcement and pressure on governments to act. However, inconsistent implementation and the political influence of vigilante groups hinder progress, leaving members of the minority community vulnerable to violence. The rise of cow vigilante mobs correlates with the growing influence of Hindu hardliners in the past decade. These groups operate with alarming impunity, often sidestepping law enforcement and judicial processes. The fact that several of their leaders have found success in local politics in the past seven years raises troubling questions about the erosion of democratic principles and the protection of minority rights. The government must act decisively to curb this menace before it further destabilises social harmony.

## Ahmedabad Civil Hospital's resident doctors go on strike for higher stipends

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Two days after the Gujarat government gave an approximately 20% raise in stipends to intern and resident doctors in all streams of medicine across the state with retrospective effect from April 1, 2024, the Junior Doctors Association (JDA) of BJ Medical College, associated with Ahmedabad Civil Hospital (CHA), has gone on strike to demand a 40% stipend hike instead of the 20%. The resident doctors of the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital have withdrawn all services, including emergency duties, citing the "bad faith" of the government who they claim had assured them a 40% raise in stipend. None of the other junior doctors' associations across 18 different medical colleges appear to have joined this strike. Meanwhile, the state government in a statement Sunday called the demands "unjustified", saying Gujarat is a "leader" in paying stipends to doctors. In a letter issued to authorities on Sunday, the JDA warned the government, "We have lost trust in the government. Hence we, all the students of BJ Medical College have been forced to stay away from all our duties on the path shown by Gandhi, from September

The letter said they had been making representations to the government for the past six months. According to these representations, the stipend of junior doctors is increased by 40% every three years. The last increase was on April 1, 2021, three years of which were completed on March 31, 2024. Hence, they said, their demand was for an increase of 40% in the stipend from April 1 onwards. "In a meeting with the Health Minister on July 9, 2024, we were assured of a 40% increase in stipend. So the movement was postponed by trusting the democratic government. After 10 to 12 consecutive visits and the last six months of hard work and full faith in the Govt, (it) gave only an unsatisfactory increase of 20%," the letter read. Dr Dhaval Gameti, President of the JDA, remained unavailable for comment despite multiple attempts to reach him. Situation of public sector hospitals in Ahmedabad

This has led to a critical situation, not just for patients at the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital which is the largest quaternary healthcare institution in western India, but also for patients at GMERS Sola Civil Hospital in Ahmedabad, GMERS Gandhinagar Civil Hospital and other private hospitals who send critical patients and those in need of super speciality treatment to this facility. Dr Rajnish Patel, the Deputy Superintendent of CHA, told the Indian Express, "We have suspended all non-emergency and postponed planned surgeries. All OTs have been suspended, and staff have been deployed in critical areas such as emergency and OPD areas. We have also advised other hospitals about the resident protest and to curtail the transfer of patients unless it is a very critical situation." Notably, other civil hospitals in Central and North Gujarat depend on Ahmedabad Civil Hospital to provide critical care and super speciality services. These include neurology, cardiology, nephrology, and oncology. Fortunately, the Medicity campus that houses the CHA also has separate, allied hospitals like UNMICRC for cardiology, IKDRC for kidney and liver diseases, and GCRI for cancer treatment. The Indian Express spoke to officials in other tertiary public sector hospitals who said they would manage the patients, but that the protest would impact healthcare in the state.

Meanwhile, the state government issued a statement on Sunday night in response to the resident doctors. It stated, "The stipend of the state interns and resident doctors was increased by 20% on Saturday. Following this, the Junior Doctors Association has threatened to go on strike for a 40% stipend increase, which is completely unjustified. Their decision is inhumane at the expense of patient treatment. The practice of taking patients as hostages through this scam is totally unacceptable." The statement added, "The real situation is that among the states that give the highest stipend to resident doctors in the country, Gujarat is the leader compared to other states. In Gujarat, the stipend given to interns and resident doctors is completely tax-free while the salary of the professor teaching these resident doctors is taxed... A stipend of more than Rs 1 lakh was already given to resident doctors. Now, the government has increased it by 20% to Rs 1,30,000. Additionally, other states have three-year bonds, while Gujarat has a one-year bond." The statement said that the demand of resident doctors to "get a higher stipend than the professor teaching them" was "completely unjustified".

## Karnataka BJP leader Arun Puthila booked for sexually harassing woman



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

The Karnataka Police on Sunday booked BJP leader Arun Kumar Puthila for allegedly sexually harassing a 47-year-old woman. Puthila refuted the allegations and said it was a political conspiracy against him. In her complaint to the Dakshina Kannada police, the woman said the BJP leader sexually assaulted her at a hotel in Bengaluru between June 1 and 8. She said she had been impressed by the Hindutva ideology and had become his fan. She also said she used to support his words and

actions on social media. "In June last year, he asked me to come to a hotel in Bengaluru where he sexually assaulted me. Later, he started blackmailing me and used to call me whenever he wanted. He physically and mentally exploited me, assuring me that he would provide everything needed for the betterment of my daughter's life," she said in her complaint. She also said he used to threaten to leak her photos and videos to get his work done by her. "He assured me to pay for the work that I had done but never paid," she added. Puthila contested as a rebel Independent candidate in the Karnataka Assembly polls last year after the BJP denied him a ticket from the Puttur Assembly seat. He lost by 4,149 votes to the Congress's Ashok Kumar Rai and later rejoined the BJP. The woman said he avoided her after the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. She also said she did not have money to pay rent or have a job. The Dakshina Kannada police registered a case under sections 417 (cheating), 354 (a) (sexual harassment) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) against him. A police officer said they consulted the legal team to transfer the case to the Bengaluru city police as the woman claimed that she was sexually assaulted in Bengaluru.

## 93 packets of Afghani charas seized across Gujarat coastal areas in past 22 days



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Afghani charas seizure, Tithal beach drugs, Gujarat drug bust, coastal drug trafficking, On August 12 and 13, Valsad police recovered 32 packets of Afghani charas in beach areas near protection walls at Udvada and Dhanti-Bhagal village in Pardi taluka. Each packet weighed 1.18 kg and they were cumulatively worth around Rs. 19 crore. Valsad police seized a kilogram of Afghani charas lying abandoned on the banks of Tithal beach on Sunday. In the last 22 days, police in Surat, Navsari, and Valsad police have seized 93 packets of high-purity Afghani charas valued at over Rs. 56.46 crores from different seashores.

Acting on information from local passersby, Valsad police reached Tithal beach and discovered a packet on the ground beside a protection wall, near Sai Baba temple, on Sunday evening. Accompanied by FSL officials, po-

lice checked the material. The seized charas weighed 1.18 kg, being worth Rs. 58.60 lakh. Valsad rural police registered a case under different sections of the NDPS Act against unknown persons and have started a probe. On August 12 and 13, Valsad police recovered 32 packets of Afghani charas in beach areas near protection walls at Udvada and Dhanti-Bhagal village in Pardi taluka. Each packet weighed 1.18 kg and they were cumulatively worth around Rs. 19 crore. The Valsad district has 70 kilometres of coastal areas, and given such seizures recently, police have intensified coastal patrolling.

On August 15, Navsari police found 50 packets of high-purity Afghani charas lying abandoned in a five-kilometre stretch on the sea banks at Onjal village in the district. The value of the seized charas is Rs. 30 crore. Police had registered an offence against unknown persons. On the same day, as well as on August 14, Surat police seized 10 packets of Afghani charas worth Rs. 6.88 crore from the seashore banks in the Hazira area. Hazira police had also registered a case against unknown persons. With such large and frequent discoveries of charas, the state's Anti-Terrorist Squad officials are now co-ordinating with Special Operation Group police teams of Surat, Valsad, and Navsari in a probe. Valsad police officials said that the Afghani charas may be trafficked to some countries in a boat or ship. Consignment owners may have disposed of the charas into the water after spotting the patrolling of Navy and Coast Guard teams, resulting in these packets appearing on banks across South Gujarat, police said.

## Three aspiring cops held for beating up 72-year-old over false claim of carrying cow meat get bail in a day



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Three men arrested for allegedly assaulting a 72-year-old man on a train in Maharashtra after accusing him of carrying cow meat were released on bail by a court in Thane district on Sunday. The three Dhule-based men, who were travelling to Mumbai to appear in a police recruitment test when they allegedly attacked the elderly fellow passenger, were arrested on August 31. They got bail in one day as the Government Railway Police had not invoked non-bailable charges against them. The arrested accused—Akash Awhad, 30, Nitesh Ahire, 30, and Jayesh Mohite, 21—were among those who beat up the Jalgaon-based senior citizen, who was travelling on the Dhule-CSMT Express to visit his daughter in Kalyan, on August 28.

As per the senior citizen's complaint, which he lodged only after the police persuaded him to, he boarded the train from Chalisgaon and got a seat after the train reached Nashik railway station. "When one of the men

asked him to share the seat, the elderly person asked him if he would sit on his lap, as there was no room for another passenger. This angered the passenger. And when the senior citizen was collecting his luggage to get off at the Kalyan station, the men did not allow him to get down," said a police officer. The group of men then started abusing and beating him up and also asked him to show what he was carrying. Since the senior citizen was carrying two plastic jars full of raw buffalo meat, they started assaulting him claiming that it was beef.

At Thane, after all of the assailants got off the train, the senior citizen left for his daughter's home in Kalyan. He was carrying buffalo meat, which is not banned in Maharashtra, the police said after a preliminary investigation. The police said the assailants also video-recorded the incident. In the video, which they shared on social media, one of the accused was seen saying they would call activists from the Bajrang Dal. After the video went viral online, the police sent a team to locate the senior citizen. The police team convinced him to lodge a complaint, after which his statement was recorded and an FIR registered. The accused were arrested under sections 189(2) (unlawful assembly), 191(2) (rioting), 190 (unlawful assembly in prosecution of common object), 126(2) (wrongful restraint), 115(2) (causing hurt), 324(4)(5) (mischief causing loss or damage), 351(2)(3) (criminal intimidation), and 352 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. They were picked up from Dhule as they had returned from Mumbai after the police recruitment test. The police said they were identifying other members of the group of men who assaulted the senior citizen.

## Drunk accused had altercation with BEST bus driver, grabbed steering wheel when vehicle not stopped for him to alight

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Lalbagh accident Shinde, in a fit of anger, grabbed the steering wheel, causing the northbound bus to collide with two cars and a motorcycle, and also knocking down two pedestrians, according to the police. The drunk passenger who allegedly caused a bus accident in Mumbai's Lalbagh on Sunday night veered the steering wheel of the BEST bus after an altercation with the driver, the police said on Monday. One of the nine injured people succumbed to her injuries on Monday morning, the police added.

Datta Murlidhar Shinde, 40, was heavily drunk and wanted to get off the bus in the middle of the route, but the driver, Kamlesh Prajapati, refused to stop the bus, they said. Shinde, in a fit of anger, grabbed the steering wheel, causing the northbound bus to collide with two cars and a motorcycle, and also knocking down two pedestrians, according to the police. The woman who died was identified as Nupur Subhash Maniyaar. An officer said, "She was riding pillion on a two-wheeler, and we believe that she may have been crushed between the vehicles, due to which she sustained multiple internal injuries. Maniyaar

was rushed to the hospital and she succumbed to her injuries early on Monday." The police said the deceased was a resident of Chinchpokli area in Lalbagh an Income Tax Department employee. "She had stepped out for some household work on a Sunday evening when the accident took place," said an officer. The police registered a case under the relevant section of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and obstructing a public servant from performing his duties under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, following which Shinde was placed under arrest. The police said Shinde, an alcohol addict,



is married and stays with his family in Lalbagh. "We have been told that he was booked in another case related to an accident before. We are trying to get details of the case," an officer said.

## Rahul Gandhi to visit Sangli in Maharashtra, inaugurate Congress stalwart Patangrao Kadam's statue



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Rahul Gandhi Sangli visit Rahul Gandhi is also likely to have a meeting with Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray and NCP (SP) national chief Sharad Pawar during his visit. Congress MP Rahul Gandhi is slated to visit Sangli district in Maharashtra on Thursday. During his visit, the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha will inaugurate the statue of former Congress minister Patangrao Kadam who passed away in 2018.

Congress spokesperson Atul Londhe said, "As of now, his (Rahul Gandhi) plan is to visit Sangli for the inauguration of the statue of Patangrao Kadam, one of our tallest leaders from Maharashtra." Rahul Gandhi is also likely to have a meeting with Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray and NCP (SP) national chief Sharad Pawar during his visit.

Londhe, however, said, "We have so far not received any intimation in this regard. But both Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray have been invited to the inauguration function. If they remain present, obviously a meeting will take place." Rahul Gandhi's visit to Sangli where Congress rebel candidate Vishal Patil had won during the Lok Sabha election assumes significance in view of the forthcoming Assembly elections. During his Bharat Jodo Yatra, Rahul Gandhi had given western Maharashtra a miss. "Now he has a chance to make up for that miss... In western Maharashtra, the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) had done well during the Lok Sabha polls. His presence will further boost the MVA spirit," said a senior Congress leader. Patangrao Kadam, an education baron, who founded the Bharati Vidyapeeth, was among the tallest Congress leaders. He served as minister for several years in Congress-NCP governments.

## Farmers allowed to march up to Matka Chowk in Chandigarh, hand over charter of demands



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

farmers march to Matka Chowk The protesters are slated to start the rally at 3:30 pm and hand over a memorandum of their demands to officials at the end of their march. The Union Territory administration permitted Bharti Kisan Union (BKU)-Ugrahan to take out a protest march till Matka Chowk in Chandigarh. The protesters are slated to start the rally at 3:30 pm and hand over a memorandum of their demands to officials at the end of their march. The administration has also asked the farmer's union to limit the number of protesters to 1,000.

Confirming the news, Sukhdev Singh Kokri Kalan, an office bearer of BKU (Ugrahan), told The Indian Express that they intended to march up to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha secretariat on the first day of the Monsoon Session, but the permission has been given only till Matka Chowk - which is about 1.5 km from the Vidhan Sabha. He added that they have been asked to walk peacefully in a single file and return to Sector-34 Dussehra Ground in Chandigarh after the march. Notably, the Chandigarh administration has permitted any organisation to protest at Matka Chowk after several years. Earlier, it used to be the hub of protests in the city but the Chandigarh administration had banned protests at the site. The authorities have announced traffic diversions for Monday to avoid traffic blockages owing to the farmers' protest.

## Polala festival celebrated on colorful note in erstwhile Adilabad

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Adilabad: The annual Polala or Pola, a festival of thanks-giving to farm animals for toiling for their masters was celebrated on a colorful note across the erstwhile Adilabad district even as torrential rains lashed the region on Monday. Heavy rains failed to dampen the spirit of the farmers, who offered a bath to the bullocks in nearby irrigation tanks and ponds in the morning. They then attractively decorated the farm animals with vibrant colors and joon (cloth outfit) before taking them in processions to local temples. They took the animals in a procession around the temples and thanked the cattle for playing a vital role in farming. The farmers presented delicious food items called Naivedyam to the farm animals as a token of gratitude. The women worshipped the animals as part of the festival. The farm animals were given rest and were not used in agriculture activities to mark the occasion. Cultural programmes were conducted to mark the occasion in rural parts of Adilabad, Nirmal, Mancherial and Kumram Bheem Asifabad districts. The countryside of this region came alive with farmers celebrating the festival, the processions and exhibition of decorated bullocks. The bullocks, which help farmers in many ways, are thanked on Polala festival. Their importance has not declined even with the advent of mechanization of the agriculture sector in composite Adilabad district. The festival is also celebrated in the neighboring Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh states.

## Husband of TMC leader threatens to 'hang distorted pictures' of protestors' 'mother and sisters'



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

After West Bengal Mamata Banerjee advised TMC leaders to "hiss" at "ugly, slanderous" people trying to "bite" them, party leaders are threatening people. After West Bengal Mamata Banerjee advised TMC leaders to "hiss" at "ugly, slanderous" people trying to "bite" them, party leaders are threatening people. After West Bengal Mamata Banerjee advised TMC leaders to "hiss" at "ugly, slanderous" people trying to "bite" them, party leaders are threatening people. The latest is Atish Sarkar, husband of a TMC councillor at Habra, who lashed out at protestors on Sunday.

"I will make a distorted picture of your mother and sister and hang it on the door of your house. You will not be able to leave your house," he said, referring to people making social media posts to criticise the state administration in the wake of the RG Kar hospital rape and murder case. Earlier on Sunday, TMC Bankura MP Arup Chakraborty said that once party workers take a stand and "hiss", those who are protesting against the rape and murder of a junior doctor at RG Kar Hospital and "misleading people", will "flee like dogs".

"Awaken your conscience. Save (West) Bengal. Stand with Mamata Banerjee. We are there in Delhi's Parliament. Trinamool Congress workers will have to hiss. Friends, you hiss and they will flee like dogs, they will run like foxes," said Chakraborty in a party meeting in Bankura. In the same speech, he said, "We wanted change, not revenge, after coming to power in 2011. But they have crossed all limits. They are misleading the people and making them say that people will not accept Kanyashree or Durga Puja grants (in protest against the rape and murder case). If they have guts, they should take out a rally and show how many people are with them." He called on women workers and student workers of the party to take a stand against protestors spreading rumours about the case. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said, during a public meeting on the occasion of the foundation day of Trinamool Congress Chhatra Parishad (the party's student wing) on August 28, "I never wanted revenge. But now I say, you will understand well what needs to be done. I don't want trouble. Today, you will understand what needs to be done. But the ugly, slanderous one that bites you every day, you don't bite him but you can hiss." However on August 29, Banerjee took to X to say, "I also clarify that the phrase ('phonsh kara') that I had used in my speech yesterday is a quote from Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa. The legendary saint had said that occasionally there is a need to raise one's voice. When there are crimes and criminal offences, a voice of protest has to be raised. My speech on that point was a direct allusion to the great Ramakrishnite saying." On August 19, controversy arose after Chakraborty stated in a public meeting that 'if doctors, instead of treating patients and in the garb of protests, roam about with their boyfriends or go home and the patients die, there will be public outrage. If hospitals get gheraoed, they should not come to us to save them.'

## Daughter of small shop owner in a Punjab village makes it to IIT-Guwahati — with little push from an oil refinery

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

In 2023, Khushi enrolled in a local college after clearing her Class 12 board examination from a government school in a village in Punjab's Bathinda with flying marks. Khushi, whose father repairs mobile phones at a small shop in the Bhucho Kalan village, dreamt of studying engineering at elite institutions after watching the web series Kota Factory. Despite being a sharp student, she buried her dream due to a lack of resources. One day, on her way to college, she got the message that she had cleared the Super 100 programme run by Guru Gobind Singh Refinery in Bathinda to identify 100 underprivileged students and provide them coaching for the entrance exams to elite institutions. She is now a student of Civil Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati.

"While studying in a government school, I never imagined I would get an opportunity to study at an institution like IIT. After being selected for the Super 100 programme, I took a gap year and went to Delhi for 11 months for residential coaching and cracked the exam. The refinery funded my stay, food, and tuition fees. Now, I am studying at ITI Guwahati. My father had a dream that I should become an engineer. Now, I am in a position to become one," said Khushi. She worked hard and cleared Joint Entrance Examination Mains and then JEE Advanced, and during counselling, she secured a seat at IIT Guwahati. She said she would be the first engineer in her family to study at a prestigious institution like IIT Guwahati.

Khushi is not the only one to be selected for Guru Gobind Singh Refinery's Super 100 programme. The refinery partnered with the Centre for Social Responsibility and Leadership (CSRL), Delhi, to participate in the National Super 100 programme for the underprivileged through education. After conducting a competitive exam among 600 students from 22 schools in the Bathinda district, the refinery selected eight students and sent them to CSRL in July 2023, where they received 11 months of residential coaching.



Harpreet Singh from the Burj Gil village was also among the eight students who were selected for the programme. He said after clearing his Class 12 from the government secondary school in Phool town, he dreamt of pursuing engineering. However, due to financial constraints and lack of guidance, he enrolled in a private college. It was a big surprise for him when he got selected for the Super 100 programme. He is now pursuing a Mechanical Engineering course at Dr B R Ambedkar National Institute of Technology (NIT) in Jalandhar. "My father works at a cold store. He has no idea what NIT is. But it was his hard work in life that motivated me to concentrate on my studies and crack the exam," said Singh. Sahil from Maur Mandi in Bathinda and Pawandeep Singh from Hasta Kalan village in Fazilka also have similar journeys. Like Harpreet, they have also selected for NIT, Jalandhar.

## Man arrested for 'killing' lawyer over making 'indecent advances' to wife in Gujarat



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Police said that the accused has claimed that Pandit allegedly made indecent advances towards his wife, prompting him to attack the lawyer. Police said that the accused has claimed that Pandit allegedly made indecent advances towards his wife, prompting him to attack the lawyer. Vadodara taluka police Sunday arrested a man for the alleged murder of his 74-year-old lawyer Vitthal Pandit, who succumbed to injuries after the accused allegedly assaulted him over a heated argument

late Saturday night. Police said that the accused has claimed that Pandit allegedly made indecent advances towards his wife, prompting him to attack the lawyer.

Police said that the advances occurred late on Saturday night on a stretch between Sindhrot and Amrapura when the accused, Naresh Raval, had stopped and stepped out of his car for a break, according to his statement. Raval, along with his wife and Pandit had travelled to Padra to visit a temple dedicated to Goddess Tulja on Saturday. Pandit, who was a member of the Baroda Bar Association, had come in touch with Raval pertaining to the latter's civil case in the Vadodara court and had been representing him in the matter. Police said that the accused has claimed that he had developed "family ties" with Pandit over the years. "The accused said that when he returned (to the car), they had a heated argument and Raval assaulted Pandit with a hard fibre rod, leaving him injured. The locals immediately rushed, caught Raval and called in an ambulance to rush Pandit to the hospital but he succumbed during treatment in the wee hours of Sunday. We are investigating the claims," a senior official of Vadodara District police said.

## Heavy rain in Delhi leads to waterlogging, traffic disruption on several major roads

GNS News Agency, Sept 5 Waterlogging also affected the route from Safdarjung to Mehrauli on the Ring Road and the MB Road carriageway towards Mehrauli from Badarpur. Waterlogging also affected the route from Safdarjung to Mehrauli on the Ring Road and the MB Road carriageway towards Mehrauli from Badarpur. Several areas in Delhi experienced heavy waterlogging after heavy rain on Monday morning, affecting major routes such as South Delhi's Dhaula Kuan to Ring Road and the Delhi-Noida Direct (DND) Flyway.

According to multiple alerts issued by the Delhi Traffic Police on X, around 12.30 pm, traffic was disrupted on

NH-48 from Dhaula Kuan to Mahipalpur and vice versa due to severe waterlogging. The DTP stated in another post, "Traffic is affected on Ring Road in the carriageway from DND towards Moolchand underpass due to waterlogging near Gupta market, Lajpat Nagar." The Okhla underpass, which connects Noida and Kalkaji/Govindpur, was also affected by heavy waterlogging. In another update, the police said traffic was also impacted on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) in both directions from Savitri flyover to Paras Chowk and vice versa due to waterlogging. Waterlogging also affected the route from Safdarjung to Mehrauli on the Ring Road and the MB Road carriageway towards Mehrauli from Badarpur.

## Man who 'stole from Hanuman temple' dies by 'suicide' in police station in Gujarat



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Two days after he was allegedly caught trying to steal articles from a Hanuman temple in Dhoraji town of Gujarat's Rajkot district, a 30-year-old man allegedly died by suicide inside Dhoraji police station on Sunday afternoon. The body of Kamlesh Parmar (30), a casual labourer and resident of Dhoraji town, was found inside the women's washroom in Dhoraji police station at around 3.30 pm on Sunday, police said.

"The head constable conducting an enquiry against Parmar noted that the suspect was not where he was asked to sit. He immediately checked the bathroom and found Parmar hanging. He was given CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) and an ambulance was called. As his pulse was detected, he was rushed to a hospital but

doctors pronounced him dead," said Ravi Godham, police inspector (PI) in-charge of Dhoraji police station, to The Indian Express on Monday. The PI said that Parmar's death came two days after he was handed over to people by a group of people on Friday. "One Sandeep Gohil, a resident of Dhoraji, complained that Parmar had lifted tongs and other articles from the temple in the Kadiyavad area," Godham said. "Parmar had a habit of drinking and committing petty theft to purchase liquor. During his questioning by Dhoraji police, he didn't get to drink and could have taken the extreme step because of this," the PI claimed.

He said that Parmar had been detained on August 28 in connection with a case of theft of mobile phones and cash, registered at Bhavnath police station in Junagadh. "We had also seized two mobile phones, believed to be stolen, from him. After that, we handed him over to Bhavnath police station. Apparently, he got bail in that case, returned to Dhoraji and attempted theft in the Hanuman temple," said Godham. Later on Friday, Dhoraji police had handed Parmar to his maternal uncle Jayantilal Vinjuda, who reportedly brought him back on Saturday and Sunday for questioning per instructions. Police said that Parmar used to live alone as his parents were no more and his wife had also become estranged from him. The PI said that CCTV cameras inside the police station have recorded Parmar's movement and that an inquest was done by a sub-divisional magistrate of Dhoraji in the presence of Parmar's family.

## Child killed, elderly woman injured in separate incidents of wolf attack in UP's Bahraich

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

wolf attack The problem is there are more than hundred revenue villages and the wolves are attacking new villages within a span of four to five days, DM Rani said. A 2.5-year-old girl was killed and a 70-year-old woman was injured in separate incidents of wolf attacks in Mahsi division of the district, officials said on Monday. The first incident took place in Garethi Gurudutt Singh village of Hardi area on Sunday night, when Anjali was sleeping outside the house with her mother and a wolf snatched her, they said. The child's mutilated body was found 1 km away from the village, officials said, adding that the wolf had eaten both her hands. District Magistrate Monika Rani said this is the eighth incident of death due to wolf attacks since July 17, with eight people, including seven children, killed in these attacks and about 30 injured. In another incident, Kamala Devi from Mauja Kotiya village of Barabigha area was injured when a wolf entered inside her house and attacked her on Monday morning, they added. She has been admitted to a district hospital with injuries on her neck, mouth and ears and her condition is stated to be stable, officials said. The administration is working to catch the attacking wolves, with four already caught, she said, however the problem is there are more than hundred revenue villages and the wolves are at-



tacking new villages within a span of four to five days. People are being made aware to sleep with the doors closed or on rooftops and remain alert, Rani said. "Till now, two wolves are being reported to be attacking, but the forest department is specially collecting information about the number. The correct number can be told after the investigation is complete," she added. Meanwhile, Superintendent of Police Vrinda Shukla and DM Rani took stock of the situation and went to meet the family members of the victims. They have ensured proper treatment of the injured woman

## Udupi mutt seer stirs row after his statement on Sanskrit: 'those who don't know the language can't go to heaven'

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Udupi Sugenendra Theertha Swamiji is the 30th pontiff of Puthige mutt located in Udupi which follows the Vedic traditional lineage of Madhwaacharya, who upheld the Dwaita school of philosophy. Udupi's Puthige mutts seer Sugenendra Theertha Swami sparked a controversy after he said those who do not know Sanskrit cannot go to heaven. While speaking at the conclusion of Sri Krishna Mahotsav on Sunday, the Puthige mutt seer said that Sanskrit is a 'holy' language which is simple and beautiful and can be easily learnt.

"It is a world language and it is also a language spoken by Gods. All languages originate from Sanskrit. It is not just the origin of Indian languages but also the English language. So, those who want to go to heaven will have to learn the Sanskrit language," he said. Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, who was present during his speech, said it is more important to know in emotion and feeling we pray to god than the language we use. After his statement, many people on the Internet objected to his statement. Writer and social activist



Vaddagere Nagarajiah posted on Facebook, "I learnt Sanskrit as I studied at Siddaganga mutt and I am now eligible to go to heaven. But my parents, relatives and friends did not learn Sanskrit and I refuse to go to heaven when they are not there". Sugenendra Theertha Swamiji is the 30th pontiff of Puthige mutt located in Udupi which follows the Vedic traditional lineage of Madhwaacharya, who upheld the Dwaita school of philosophy.

## How a college rivalry escalated to the brutal murder of an IT engineer

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

On July 28 last year, Saurabh Nandlal Patil, who was working at a software firm in Pune, called his family in Shirdi to tell them that he was coming home. It was the last time the 23-year-old Information Technology (IT) engineer spoke to his family. Around eight days later, a forest guard who was on his night patrol in the Ghat section of the Sandbhorwadi area, off the Pune-Nashik Highway, found a decomposed body at around 5 am on August 5. An Aadhaar card and voter's ID helped the police identify it as that of Patil's. The autopsy showed he died due to injuries from a sharp weapon on his throat, chest abdomen, and blows from a blunt object on the back of the head, the autopsy revealed. Patil was a resident of the temple town of Shirdi in Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district and had completed his engineering degree. Months before he was killed, he appeared for the final exam of the MTech course from an engineering college in Pimpri Chinchwad.

His family members told The Indian Express at the time that Patil was known as a sincere and hardworking young man among his peers. According to the police probe, Patil started working for the private structural designing firm in Hinjewadi on June 6, 2023. However, he decided to leave in the last week of July as the company's work and his interests did not match. When Patil did not reach home and his phone remained reachable, his family contacted his friends, some of whom had been living with him in shared accommodation in Pimpri Chinchwad. When they could not be found, Patil's cousin lodged a missing complaint at the Hinjewadi Police Station on July 29.

The police investigation brought to light a bizarre and gory sequence of events. Patel was brutally mur-

dered by his college mate over their long-standing rivalry that had begun over a trivial incident during their college days. On August 10 last year, the police arrested Patil's college mate Mayur Sandeep Dalvi, 22, who belongs to Kopergaon in Ahmednagar. The next day, the police arrested Dalvi's accomplice Nishant Rajendra Zaware, 23, also from Kopergaon. "With hardly any concrete clue from the spot where the body was found, we started meticulously working on the technical leads, mainly the phone records. We checked the call records of the deceased and started questioning some people. Questioning Saurabh Patil's classmate, Mayur Dalvi, uncovered numerous inconsistencies in his responses. His in-depth questioning and our parallel investigation revealed the sequence of events leading to Patil's murder," said an officer from the Khed Police Station who was part of the probe.

"When the two were at Sanjeevani College in Kopergaon, they had a dispute over glaring at each other. This rivalry continues and there were physical altercations too during the college days. The probe revealed that Dalvi and Patil were together on July 28, the day he went missing. Dalvi gave misleading answers initially. But later revealed that he had come to Pune in search of a job not very long before the incident. The two had decided to meet to settle their old dispute. The probe suggests that Dalvi and Zaware took Patil to the secluded place in Sandbhorwadi. During the fight, the two accused allegedly murdered Patil. We subsequently recovered the rock and knife used to murder Patil after the two accused were arrested," the officer added. A senior officer from Khed Police Station said a chargesheet in the case has been filed and court proceedings are underway.

## ED arrests AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan in connection with money laundering case

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

The Enforcement Directorate on Monday arrested Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA Amanatullah Khan in connection with a money laundering case. He is expected to be produced in Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court in the afternoon. Earlier in the day, ED officials searched his residence in Okhla. "An ED team has reached my house to arrest me," the AAP MLA for New Delhi's Okhla constituency tweeted at 6.30 am. The case against Khan stems from two FIRs: one filed by the CBI concerning alleged irregularities in Waqf Board appointments, and another by the Delhi ACB regarding an alleged case of disproportionate assets. The agency had earlier summoned Khan and questioned him for 13 hours. At 7.43 am, Khan posted a video on the social media platform. "An ED team has come to arrest me on the pretext of a search. My mother-in-law is a cancer patient; she was operated on four days ago. She is also at my home. I had informed the ED about this. They have been harassing me for two years, slapping false cases. They are harassing our party (AAP). Their objective is to break our party. I appeal to the people of Okhla to pray for me and I promise that we will get all your work done. Don't worry, we will not get scared," he said in the video. In another video, an elderly woman was seen lying on the bed as Khan asked a man at his

door why the officials were there when he had sought four weeks to appear before the ED. "My mother-in-law has had surgery," he said. The man at the door asked why he thought they were there to arrest him. Khan said, "Why else are you here?" A woman, purportedly Khan's wife, then said, "What are you looking for in a three-room house... If something happens to my mother, I will take you to court." "This is the only job left for ED. Suppress every voice raised against BJP. Break it. Arrest and put in jail those who do not break or get suppressed," senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia posted on X.

AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh posted, "See the cruelty of ED. Amanatullah Khan joined the ED investigation and asked for time as his mother in law has cancer and she has undergone an operation but ED reached his house early in the morning. There is no evidence against Amanatullah Khan but Modi's dictatorship and ED's hooliganism continue." Referring to Khan, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said there was a group of "criminal elements in AAP". "When ED reached his house for its investigation in connection with financial irregularities in the Delhi Waqf Board, he said they had come to arrest him but did not tell people why... The law is equal for everyone," he said.

## 'Living under fear of privatisation': Rahul Gandhi highlights problems faced by DTC workers



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday released a video of his interaction with the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus drivers and conductors, highlighting that they were "constantly living under the fear of privatisation" with "no stable income or permanent job". "No social security, no stable income and no permanent job - contractual labour has reduced a job of great responsibility to a state of compulsion," wrote Gandhi on his social media.

"Troubled by this neglect, DTC workers, like government employees across the country, are constantly living under the fear of privatisation. These are the people who run India, who facilitate the travel of millions of commuters every day - but all they have got in return for their dedication is injustice," Gandhi stated on Facebook. The video started with Gandhi taking an Uber ride with a driver whom he had previously met. After introducing him to his mother, Gandhi travelled with him to the Sarojini Nagar Bus Depot, where he had interacted with DTC drivers, conductors, and marshals the previous Wednesday. During the interaction with the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus drivers, Gandhi inquired about their work hours. The drivers responded that they are supposed to work eight hours, but often end up working around two hours extra.

Festive offer Congress leader Rahul Gandhi interacts with a DTC bus conductor in New Delhi on Wednesday, August 28. (Photo: Facebook) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi interacts with a DTC workers in New Delhi on Wednesday, August 28. (Photo: Facebook) The Con-

gress leader then asked if they are permanent employees, to which they reply negatively, stating that they are all temporary employees. "How much money do you get and how much does the contractor get?" Gandhi asked.

"There is no contractor. It is only us and DTC. But we get Rs 813 per day, which also includes our PF deduction. Additionally, we don't get any rest days, not even on Holi or Diwali. Our salary is cut on days we take rest," explained one of the DTC drivers. Gandhi inquired about how he can help them, to which the drivers responded with their need for permanent employment and timely salaries. "Our salaries have not been paid for 5 months. The state and centre are playing the blame game. They say funds have not been released. They have further stated that salaries won't be credited for 2 more months. This is affecting our families; if we can't pay our children's fees or admit them to school, their futures will be destroyed," a DTC driver said. A conductor from the DTC added during the interaction that they work on a contractual basis, with their contracts renewed annually. "If our duty hours are reduced, they don't renew the contract," he said. "Our demand is to make our jobs permanent. Samaan vetan aur samaan kaam hona chahiye (We want equal work, equal pay). When Sheila Dixit was in office, she made us permanent employees," he continued. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi holds a DTC bus ticket in his hand. (Photo: Facebook) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi holds a DTC bus ticket in his hand. (Photo: Facebook)

"Why is our citizenship permanent but our jobs temporary? Why is there so much privatisation?" another DTC conductor asked. Gandhi questioned, "With all this privatization, who is benefiting?" "Only the job holders," someone replies. "Modi ji has worsened the situation. He has eliminated the distinction between a literate and an illiterate person. A labourer earns 18-20k, while an educated person earns 25k. We are common people. Even after educating our children, they are earning only 25-30k," said a worker from the DTC workshop. When Gandhi asked if they are able to save money, they said no. He also inquired if they have bus passes, and they responded that they do not; they have to pay for their travel. He then took a bus ride and asked the conductor present about his family and his job life. The collector mentioned that he is also contract labour, with his contract renewed by DTC every year. "We want to secure our future and need permanent jobs," he concluded.

## Karnataka consumer court orders SBI to waive off of Rs 4.09 lakh transaction, says bank failed to respond to customer complaint in credit card fraud case

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Manikanta then went to Mangaluru's Crime Branch Police station and the police called the credit card department of SBI and enquired about the transaction. Manikanta then went to Mangaluru's Crime Branch Police station and the police called the credit card department of SBI and enquired about the transaction. A consumer court in Karnataka has ordered the State Bank of India (SBI) to quash the credit card transaction and penalty of a customer, saying the bank failed to respond to his complaint of cyber fraud on time. On August 28, the Dakshina Kannada District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission in Mangaluru observed in its order that service was deficient on the part of the state-run bank.

Manikanta, 36, a resident of Belthangady, said he received a call on April 11, 2023, from an unknown number from a caller claiming to be from the SBI customer care department. According to Manikanta, the caller told him that his SBI credit card was blocked and instructed him to cancel the activation. The caller also asked him for his credit card number, CVV number, and OTP number, said Manikanta.

After Manikanta shared the details, Rs 3.60 lakh was transferred from his account without his knowledge. On April 12, 2023, the same person called him to say that his credit card bills were pending and instructed him to deposit the said amount. Manikanta then went to Mangaluru's Crime Branch Police station and the police called the credit card department of SBI and enquired about the transaction. The SBI staff told the police no such transaction had taken place from the bank. After checking again on April 18 at 6 pm, the credit card department replied that there was no transaction but at 7 pm, the same staff informed Manikanta that there was a transaction. Manikanta later filed a FIR at the CEN Police Station in Mangaluru saying his credit card had insurance of up to Rs 2 lakh but SBI's Belthangady branch had given him a credit card limit of Rs 5 lakh and insured only for Rs 2 lakh instead of Rs 5 lakh. Manikanta also contended that SBI's credit card collection team repeat-



edly called him from different numbers demanding him to pay Rs 4.09 lakh or threatened to release the amount of Rs 11 lakh which he had as a fixed deposit in the same bank. In its submission to the court, SBI refuted Manikanta's claims that it threatened him it would release his fixed deposit money but said the pending repayment was put on hold. The bank also claimed that Manikanta had shared the credentials like OTP due to his negligence and there was no such deficiency in service on its part.

In its order, the consumer court cited the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s guidelines of customer protection limiting the liability of customers in unauthorised electronic banking transactions. "Third-party breach where the deficiency lies neither with the bank nor with the customer but lies elsewhere in the system, and the customer notified the bank within three working days of receiving the communication from the bank regarding the unauthorised transaction," said the order.

The court said the credit card department was informed about the calls on April 12, 2023, which was within the stipulated RBI guidelines of three days, and the complainant has 'zero liability'. Citing service was deficient from the bank, Somashekarappa K Handigol, president, said in his order that SBI must quash the alleged transaction in the complainant's account as well as the interest and penalty. He also directed the bank to pay Rs 20,000 for deficiency of service, mental agony, and inconvenience caused and Rs 10,000 towards litigation costs.

## Centre approves Rs 2,817-crore mission to create digital public infrastructure in farm sector

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

The Centre on Monday approved the Rs 2,817-crore Digital Agriculture Mission for the creation of digital public infrastructure in the farm sector by building AgriStack to provide solutions like an Aadhaar-like unique ID for farmers, a crop sown registry and geo-referenced village maps, and implementing the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES). A proposal of this effect was approved by the Union cabinet, which met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The mission will be launched as part of the agriculture ministry's activities planned for the first 100 days of Modi 3.0.

A budgetary allocation of Rs 2,817 crore has been made for the mission, and Rs 1,940 crore of it will be provided by the Centre. The mission will be rolled out nationally over the next two years (till 2025-26). It was initially planned to be launched in the financial year 2021-22 but could not be rolled out because of the Covid outbreak, said a source. Later, the Government announced the building of digital public infrastructure for agriculture in the Union Budgets 2023-24 and 2024-25. "Buoyed by the success of the pilot project, our government, in partnership with the states, will facilitate the implementation of the digital public infrastructure (DPI) in agriculture for coverage of farmers and their lands in three years. During this year, a digital crop survey for kharif using the DPI will be taken up in 400 districts. The details of 6 crore farmers and their lands will be brought into the farmer and land registries," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, announcing Digital Public Infrastructure for Agriculture in her Budget speech on July 23. According to sources, three DPI projects will be undertaken as part of the mission. These are Agristack, Krishi Decision Support System, and soil profile mapping. AgriStack consists of three foundational registries or databases in the agriculture sector—the farmers' registry, geo-referenced village maps and the crop sown registry, all created and maintained by the state governments or Union Territories.

Under AgriStack, farmers will be given a digital identity similar to Aadhaar, which will be linked dynamically to the state's land records, livestock ownership, crops sown, demographic details, family details, schemes and benefits availed of etc. For the creation of unique farmer IDs, pilots have been conducted in six districts—Farrukhabad (Uttar Pradesh), Gandhinagar (Gujarat), Beed (Maharashtra), Yamuna Nagar (Haryana),



## The Digital Agriculture Mission will be launched as part of the agriculture ministry's activities planned for the first 100 days of Modi 3.0.

Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab), and Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu), said a source.

The sources said the Government aims to create digital identities for 11 crore farmers, of which six crore farmers will be covered in the financial year 2024-25, three crore in 2025-26, and two crore farmers in 2026-27. The crop sown registry will have the details of crops planted by farmers. This will be recorded through mobile-based ground surveys, or digital crop surveys, in each season. The Krishi Decision Support System, launched recently, will create a comprehensive geospatial system to unify remote sensing-based information on crops, soil, weather, water resources, etc. Under the mission, detailed soil profile maps on a 1:10,000 scale of about 142 million hectares of the country's agricultural land are envisaged to be completed. A soil profile inventory of about 29 million hectares has already been completed, said a source. The source said the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey would provide yield estimates based on scientifically designed crop-cutting experiments. This will prove very useful in making accurate estimates of agricultural production, the source added.

## They lost 53 students to Wayanad landslides. A month later, 2 schools destroyed in the disaster start classes again

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Over a month after landslides destroyed their schools, around 600 students on Monday returned to classes at Meppadi panchayat in Kerala's Wayanad district. Many of them lost loved ones and all their belongings in the disaster. The calamity also claimed several of their schoolmates - 53 students from two schools in the hardest-hit Mundakkai and Chooralmala villages died in the landslides. The two destroyed schools - Government Vocational Higher Secondary School, Chooralmala, and Government Lower Primary School, Mundakkai - have a combined 614 students. Classes for students from the Chooralmala school are now being held at the Government Higher Secondary School at Meppadi. The lower primary students of the Mundakkai school are attending their classes at a Meppadi community hall.

A part of the Government Higher Secondary School in Meppadi, where the classes for the Chooralmala school will be held. A part of the Government Higher Secondary School in Meppadi, where the classes for the Chooralmala school will be held. With the students still reeling from the trauma of the disaster, officials said there will be no mention of the landslides in the initial classes. The landslides that struck the area in the early hours of July 30 buried or washed away nearly everything from the villages. They left at least 231 dead and 78 missing. Nobody now lives at Mundakkai and Attamala villages, while a handful of survivors continue to stay in Chooralmala. Most of the survivors from these villages, including the school children, were lodged at relief camps for the large part of the last month. Recently, they have been moved to rented facilities around Meppadi and other nearby panchayats.

On Monday, the state Education Department arranged a 'pravesanolavam', or back-to-school celebration - usually held in schools across Kerala at the beginning of every academic year - for students of the Mundakkai and Chooralmala schools. The classrooms wore a festive look, and many of the students turned up in the new uniforms provided by the government. They also got new study materials as most had lost theirs in the landslides. The Chooralmala school's headmaster, Unnikrishnan, said the resumption of classes would help the students get to grips with their new lives in the aftermath of the loss and trauma of the disaster.

"There will not be any mention about the landslide at the classes, because any reference will take them back to that trauma. Through entertainment activities, we will help them heal their wounds," he said. Teachers setting



up a classroom at the Meppadi community hall Teachers setting up a classroom at the Meppadi community hall. (Express photo) There won't be regular classes in the initial days. "All teachers have got counselling to handle the survivors. We lost 32 students (from the Chooralmala school). Two of our students have lost both their parents and several others have lost either their father or mother. There is not a single student unaffected by the tragedy," the headmaster said. District Educational Officer Bijesh B C said that over the last month, children were given continuous counselling to recover from the tragedy. "We will continue this counselling. Teachers have also been given instructions to help students heal. Initially, there will be a 'bridge programme' for the students," he said.

Some items from the affected schools survived the landslides, and were brought to the new makeshift premises. These include some library books, lab equipment, and furniture. The government also distributed new 'school kits' to the students, including study material and uniforms. A family's lone survivor One of the surviving students who did not turn up on the first day was Avantika Prashob. The class 3 three student was the lone survivor from her family. She lost her parents Prashob and Vijayalakshmi, as well as elder brother Ashwin, who was also a student at the Chooralmala school, in the landslides. Avantika, who was injured, was discharged from hospital only last week. She is now with Pradeep, her father's brother. "We have not informed her about the loss of her parents and brother. We told her they are at the hospital and can't meet her. She often insists on making video calls to talk to them, but we then distract her attention to some other subject," said Pradeep. He said counsellors had asked him not to inform Avantika about her parents' death and that they would do it when the time is right. The night of the landslide was traumatic for her, and she does not like it when people speak about it, Pradeep said.

## Couldn't meet Mamata, Abhishek for a year, says TMC's Assam chief while resigning

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Assam Trinamool Congress (TMC) president Ripun Bora resigned on Sunday, citing the primary reason being the perception that the state unit was a "regional party of West Bengal", which hindered its progress. Bora had left the Congress to join the TMC in April 2022, as the state party president. In his resignation letter - addressed to TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee - Bora mentioned that "several recurring issues have been hindering" the state party's progress.

Highlighting that he had not been given an audience by either Abhishek Banerjee or Mamata Banerjee to address this issue, Bora wrote: "To counter this perception, we have made several suggestions such as the need for an Assamese leader at the national level, declaring the residence of Bharat Ratna Dr Bhupen Hazarika at Tollygunge a heritage site, and converting the Madhupur Satra at Cooch Behar (from where Assam's greatest social reformer Mahapurush Sankar Dev started the Vaishnavite movement) into a cultural hub. Despite my repeated attempts over the past year-and-a-half to

secure an appointment with you (Abhishek Banerjee) and our Chief, Mamata Didi, to address these concerns, I have been unsuccessful." Noting that he was "compelled" to disassociate from the party because of this perception, Bora further said: "Unfortunately, the issues mentioned above have led many people in Assam to continue viewing the TMC as a regional party of West Bengal. The people of Assam are not willing to accept a party that they perceive as being from another state. In the light of these challenges and lack of an adequate resolution, I feel compelled to make a difficult decision... I have decided to disassociate myself from the TMC." Since 2022, Bora has been the only prominent face of the party in Assam's Brahmaputra valley, while another former Congress leader, Sushmita Dev, represents the party in the primarily Bengali-speaking Barak valley. The TMC made its Lok Sabha debut in Assam this year and contested in four seats, bagging the third place in Silchar, fourth in Barpeta and Lakhimpur, and sixth in Kokrajhar. While Bora is from the Brahmaputra constituency, the TMC's focus has also been on building support for itself in the Barak valley.

## Firing reported outside singer AP Dhillon's Canada home, a warning in viral post



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

The Lawrence Bishnoi gang has claimed responsibility for the shooting outside Punjabi singer AP Dhillon's home in Canada. The attack comes weeks after Dhillon released a music video, featuring actor Salman Khan. A shooting incident was reported outside Punjabi singer and rapper AP Dhillon's house in Canada's Vancouver, sources told India Today TV. Though an official confirmation regarding the same is awaited, sources claimed that gunfire was heard near the singer's home in Victoria Island area on Sunday night. The Lawrence Bishnoi-Rohit Godara gang has claimed responsibility for the shootings. Notably, the attack came weeks after AP

Dhillon released a music video "Old Money", featuring Salman Khan. The threat message circulating on social media claimed that on the night of September 1, the gang orchestrated shootings at two locations in Canada — one on Victoria Island and the other in Woodbridge, Toronto.

The gang has also threatened AP Dhillon, referencing his alleged connections with Bollywood actor Salman Khan, and warns him to "stay within his limits, or he will meet a 'dog's death'". Meanwhile, the Canadian law enforcement agencies are currently investigating the authenticity of the post and the facts surrounding the shootings. No official statement has been released by the police. In November 2023, Lawrence Bishnoi claimed responsibility for a reported shooting incident at singer Gippy Grewal's residence in Vancouver, Canada. The alleged incident occurred in the White Rock neighbourhood. Later in April 2024, two bike-borne men, linked with the Bishnoi gang, opened fire outside Salman Khan's residence at the Galaxy Apartment in Mumbai's Bandra area and fled the spot. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has revealed that Salman Khan is the top target on a list of ten individuals that jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi intended to eliminate. The gangster's motive stems from Salman Khan's alleged involvement in the 1998 black buck hunting incident, which the Bishnoi claims deeply offended his community.

## British-Indian Labour MP accused of renting flats infested with fleas, ants

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

A BBC investigation found tenants living in dire conditions at 15 properties rented out by Jas Athwal, a 60-year-old British-Indian Sikh Labour MP for Ilford South. Athwal has been accused of being a "slum landlord".

A BBC investigation has revealed that tenants in properties owned by Jas Athwal, a British-Indian Sikh Labour MP, were living in dire conditions, plagued by mould, fleas and ants. The newly elected, 60-year-old Indian-origin MP has been accused of being a "slum landlord". The BBC investigation revealed that tenants in some of Athwal's 15 rental properties in London were living in some of the worst conditions possible. As the owner of these 15 flats, Athwal is the biggest landlord in the UK House of Commons. Athwal, who was born in Punjab and moved to Ilford with his family in 1970, has been a councillor since 2010 and previously served as the leader of the Redbridge London Borough Council in the UK. A BBC reporter visited flats owned by Athwal above a shop in Redbridge, East London, and found black mould on bathroom ceilings, ant infestations, broken lights, and fire alarms hanging loose. A washing machine was even dumped near the stairs. "The ants are everywhere," one tenant described, pointing to the insects crawling up a door frame. Tenants said their complaints to Athwal and his property agent were ignored, and they feared eviction if they spoke out. Athwal has now acknowledged that his flats lack the proper property licences required under a scheme he himself implemented while leading Redbridge Council. Initially, he had told the BBC that he was in compliance with the regulations. Paul Canal, the leader of Redbridge Conservatives, has called for an investigation into potential breaches of the code of



conduct by Athwal.

"I'm proud to rent out homes with secure tenancies at below-market rents. I'm shocked at the reported condition of a number of the properties and have asked the managing agent for an explanation and immediate action to rectify any issues. I'm profoundly sorry that tenants have been let down. Repairs and maintenance will be done swiftly. I am in the process of renewing all licences," Athwal was quoted as saying by the BBC. Ironically, Athwal had previously tweeted in October 2018, "Rogue landlords, we are coming for you." On September 1, Athwal tweeted an apology for the inconvenience. He also stated he would conduct a "survey of my tenants" and "will reimburse every tenant that is out of pocket for repairs or renewals." "I will be reimbursing every tenant that is out of pocket for repairs or renewals they have had to undertake. I will be conducting a survey of my tenants, so that all issues are uncovered and I am confident each one is living in secure, comfortable homes," Athwal added.

## South African beauty queen crowned Miss Universe Nigeria amid nationality row

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Chidimma Adetshina's Nigerian heritage attracted vicious xenophobic attacks and sparked controversy when she was announced as a Miss South Africa finalist in July. A former Miss South Africa contestant hounded over a nationality row was crowned Miss Universe Nigeria on Saturday, capping a difficult few weeks for the beauty queen. Born to a Nigerian father in South Africa, 23-year-old Chidimma Adetshina withdrew from the country's competition "for the safety and wellbeing of my family and I" after a backlash that exposed anti-foreigner sentiment in South Africa. "This journey has been a tough journey for me, and I am so proud of myself, and I'm really grateful for the love and the support," Adetshina told AFP minutes after being crowned in Nigeria's commercial capital of Lagos. "This is something that I've always wanted, and I'm really glad that I have a second shot as well as achieving it," Adetshina said. Her Nigerian heritage attracted vicious xenophobic attacks and sparked controversy when she was announced as a Miss South Africa finalist in July, while the government said it was investigating a claim that her mother may have stolen the identity of a South African woman. Despite not being in the country in



20 years, organisers of the Nigerian contest invited her to attend their final, saying it was a chance for her to "represent your father's native land on an international stage." "We all need to stop with the xenophobia... with the tribalism," first runner-up Paula Ezendu told AFP. "We're all one family. We're all human beings," she added. The nationality controversy notwithstanding, Adetshina insisted she loved South Africa and was grateful for the support from the country. She will represent Nigeria at the international Miss Universe competition in November. "I know we are going to win," she told reporters.

## Canada's 24-hour work limit to strain finances of Indian students

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Indian students in Canada, the largest group of international students, will face financial strain due to a new rule restricting off-campus work to 24 hours a week. This rule, which takes effect this month, would make it difficult for students to cover living costs in cities like Toronto. Canada has introduced a maximum of 24 hours per week for off-campus work for international students. It is aimed at making students prioritise studies over employment opportunities. (Photo: Immigration.ca) Indian students in Canada, who form the largest group of international students, are expected to face significant financial challenges due to a new federal rule limiting them to 24 hours of off-campus work per week. This new rule, which takes effect this month, replaces the temporary waiver of the 20-hour cap on work hours that was introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic to ease labour shortage. The waiver expired on April 30. There are no restrictions on work hours during school breaks, such as summer or winter breaks, in Canada for international students. In 2022, 2.26 lakh of 5.5 lakh international students in Canada were from India, with 3.2 lakh Indians staying in Canada on student visas and contributing to the economy as gig workers. Off-campus jobs help Indian students with paying for their groceries and accommodation. With most standard work shifts being 8 hours long, the new rule

means students can only work up to three part-time shifts per week, making it difficult for them to cover their expenses. Indian students help the Canadian government maintain the minimum wage, which is now set at 17.36 Canadian dollars per hour, effective from May. Before this increase, the minimum wage in 2023 was \$16.65 per hour. However, the 24-hour limit is expected to make it challenging for them to afford living costs in high-expense cities like Toronto. STUDENTS' CONCERNS AND ADJUSTMENTS Neeva Phatarphekar, an international student in Toronto, expressed concerns about managing her rent, groceries, and travel under the new rule. "That's going to be hard with the rent in Toronto and the groceries and eating out with friends and travelling. I have to think about all of that," she told CBC News. Phatarphekar has already cut down on expenses and moved in with friends to save on rent. She was studying for a public relations certificate at York University but will now be studying brand management at Seneca College. Deepa Mattoo, executive director and lawyer at the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, emphasised that international students work out of necessity. "Not every student can afford to go to school without that extra income. In any structure, you have to have an equity framework," Mattoo told CBC News. However, Moshe Lander, an economics professor at Concordia University in Montreal,

## Ukraine claims of destroying Russian missiles, drones, air raid sirens sounded



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Ukraine's air defence units destroyed more than 10 cruise missiles and nearly 10 ballistic missiles, the city's military administration said on the Telegram messaging app. Russia pounded Ukraine's capital of Kyiv with missiles early on Monday, while falling debris from the downed weapons injured at least two people, sparking fires and damaging homes and infrastructure, officials said. Ukraine's air defence units destroyed more than 10 cruise missiles and nearly 10 ballistic missiles, the city's military administration said on the Telegram messaging app.

Air raid alerts went out across Ukraine for nearly two

hours before the air force declared the skies clear at 0330 GMT. Neighbouring NATO member Poland activated Polish and allied aircraft to keep its airspace safe during the attacks. A boiler house at a Kyiv water plant was partially damaged as was the entrance to a metro station doubling as a bomb shelter in the Svyatoshynskiy district, Kyiv's Mayor Vitali Klitschko said on Telegram, though the station still operates. The district is home to a cluster of universities and schools. The attack injured at least two people, Klitschko said. Cars were set ablaze across the city as well as a non-residential building in the Shevchenkivskiy district, he added. Emergency services also went to the districts of Svyatoshynskiy, Holosiivskiy, and Solomyanskiy, where debris fell from destroyed missiles, Klitschko added. Solomyanskiy is home to a major train station and Kyiv's main airport. The historic neighbourhood of Svyatoshynskiy is on the city's western edge, while Holosiivskiy is in its southwest. Reuters witnesses in Kyiv heard a series of loud explosions in what sounded like the work of air defence units, some in the central area.

The attack came exactly a week after Moscow launched more than 200 missiles and drones on Ukraine, killing seven people and striking energy facilities nationwide in what Kyiv called the war's "most massive" attack. Russia denies targeting civilians in the 30-month-old war unleashed by Moscow's invasion of its smaller neighbour.

## Ex-child care worker in Australia pleads guilty to raping girls for 19 years

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Police accused the 46-year-old of being one of Australia's worst ever paedophiles after the charges against him were made public last year. Accused was first arrested in 2022 for making child sexual abuse content. A year later he was charged with 1,623 offences against 91 children. Former childcare worker Ashley Paul Griffith on Monday pleaded guilty to raping, sexually abusing and exploiting dozens of girls under his care in Australia and Italy.

It took Judge Anthony Rafter more than two hours to read out the 307 charges against Griffith in the Brisbane courtroom where several victims and their families had gathered, according to state broadcaster ABC. Police accused the 46-year-old of being one of Australia's worst ever paedophiles after the charges against him were made public last year. Griffith was first arrested in 2022 for making child sexual abuse content. A year later he was charged with 1,623 offences against 91 children. However, some charges were dropped, and the ABC reported that Monday's charges related to roughly



60 children. Many of the victims were under the age of 12. The offences happened between 2003 and 2022 in twelve different locations across Australia as well as Pisa, Italy. Griffith is in custody and will be sentenced at a later date. The court heard sentencing could take more than two days to give time to read victim impact statements, the ABC reported.

## Nationwide protest in Israel over hostages leads to uneven closures

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

A rare call for a general strike in Israel to protest the failure to return hostages held in Gaza led to closures and other disruptions around the country on Monday (September 2, 2024), including at its main international airport. But it was ignored in some areas, reflecting deep political divisions. Tens of thousands of Israelis had poured into the streets late Sunday in grief and anger after six hostages were found dead in Gaza. The families and much of the public blamed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, saying they could have been returned alive in a deal with Hamas to end the nearly 11-month-old war.

But others support Mr. Netanyahu's strategy of maintaining relentless military pressure on Hamas, whose October 7 attack into Israel triggered the war. They say it will eventually force the militants to give in to Israeli demands, potentially lead to more successful rescues and ultimately annihilate the group. Israel's largest trade union, the Histadrut, called for a general strike for Monday, the first since the start of the war. It aims to shut down or disrupt major sectors of the economy, including banking, health care and the country's main airport.

Airlines at Israel's main international airport Ben-Gurion were halting outgoing flights between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Those flights either departed early or were slightly delayed, and travellers were seen lining up at check-in counters despite the limited disruption. Arriving flights were continuing as usual during that time, according to the Israel Airports Authority. Banks, some large malls and government offices were all closed due to the strike and public transit was limited. Municipalities in Israel's populated central area, including Tel Aviv, were participating in the strike, leading to shortened school hours and cancellations for public daycares and kindergartens. Many municipalities, however, including Jerusalem, were not participating in the strike. Israeli media reported that the state appealed to a labor court to cancel the strike, saying it was politically motivated. Demands to Netanyahu

The demonstrations on Sunday appeared to be the largest since the start of the war, with organisers estimating that up to 500,000 people joined nationwide events and the main rally held in Tel Aviv. They are demanding that Mr. Netanyahu reach a deal to return the remaining roughly 100 hostages held in Gaza, a third of whom are believed to be dead, even if it means leaving a battered Hamas intact and withdrawing from the territory. Many Israelis support this position, but others prioritise the destruction of the militant group over freedom for the hostages. Mr. Netanyahu has pledged "total victory" over Hamas and blames it for the failure of the negotiations, which have dragged on for much of this year. Israel said Hamas killed all six hostages shortly before Israeli forces arrived in the tunnel where they were being held. Three of them, including an Israeli-American, were reportedly scheduled to be released in the first phase of a cease-fire proposal discussed in July. The Israeli Health Ministry said autopsies had determined the hostages were shot at close range and died on Thursday or Friday. Mr. Netanyahu blamed Hamas, saying "whoever murders hostages doesn't want a deal."

Hamas blamed their deaths on Israel and the United States, accusing them of dragging out the talks by issuing new demands, including for lasting Israeli control over two strategic corridors in Gaza. Hamas has offered to release the hostages in return for an end to the war, the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces and the release of a large number of Palestinian prisoners, including high-



profile militants. One of the six hostages was Israeli-American Hersh Goldberg-Polin, 23, a native of Berkeley, California, who lost part of his left arm to a grenade in the attack. In April, Hamas issued a video that showed him alive, sparking protests in Israel. He was one of the best-known hostages, and his parents had led a high-profile campaign for the captives' release, meeting with President Joe Biden, Pope Francis, and addressing the Democratic National Convention last month. Some 250 hostages were taken on October 7. Israel now believes about 100 remain in captivity, including 35 who are thought to be dead. More than 100 were freed during a ceasefire in November in exchange for the release of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel. Eight have been rescued by Israeli forces. Israeli troops mistakenly killed three Israelis who escaped captivity in December.

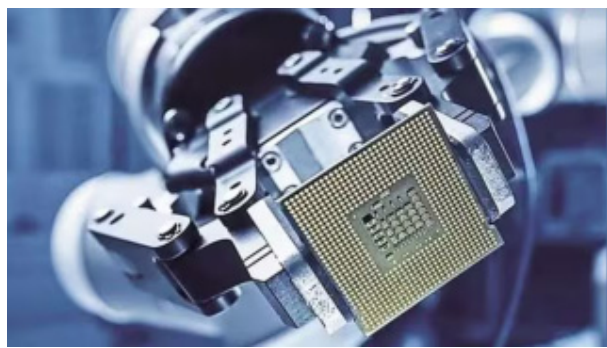
## Russia bombards Kyiv with drones, cruise and ballistic missiles



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Kyiv: Russia launched a barrage of drones, cruise and ballistic missiles at Kyiv and possibly other cities, Ukraine's Air Force said early Monday. Several series of explosions rocked the Ukrainian capital in the early hours of Monday, sending residents into bomb shelters. Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko said emergency services were called to the Holosiivskiy and Solomyanskiy districts of Kyiv. One person was reportedly injured by falling debris in Shevchenkivskiy district, Klitschko said. "There will be an answer for everything. The enemy will feel it," the head of the Presidential Office, Andrii Yermak, posted on his Telegram page following the attack. According to the air force, Russia fired several groups of cruise missiles accompanied by ballistic missile launches and a few drones, targeting Kyiv.

## Cabinet approves Rs 3,300 crore chip assembly plant by Kaynes Semicon in Gujarat



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Gujarat chip assembly plant India has ambitions to become a major chip hub on the lines of the United States, Taiwan and South Korea, and has been courting foreign companies to set up operations in the country. The Union Cabinet Monday cleared a semiconductor assembly and testing plant being set up by Kaynes Semicon at a cost of Rs 3,300 crore. This is the fifth semiconductor unit, and the fourth assembly unit, to receive Cabinet approval under India's ambitious Rs 76,000 crore chip manufacturing incentive scheme.

"The capacity of this unit will be 60 lakh chips per day... The chips produced in this unit will cater to a wide variety of applications which include segments such as industrial, automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecom, mobile phones, etc." the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) said in a statement. The plant will be constructed in Sanand, Gujarat. It is understood that the plant was initially to come up in Telangana, but was moved to Gujarat, after the government indicated that Sanand was coming up as a cluster for chip assembly plants. It is also learnt that the government's subsidy towards the plant will be around Rs 1,300 crore. India has ambitions to become a major chip hub on the lines of the United States, Taiwan and South Korea, and has been courting foreign companies to set up operations in the country. Previously, the country has approved a fabrica-

tion plant worth \$11 billion being set up by Tata Electronics in partnership with Taiwan's Powerchip, and three different chip assembly plants being set up by the Tatas, US-based Micron Technology, and Murugappa Group's CG Power in partnership with Japan's Renesas. Currently, there are more proposals to set up semiconductor units with the government. This includes a Rs 78,000 crore fabrication plant proposed by Israel's Tower Semiconductor, and a Rs 4,000 crore assembly plant by Zoho. After having committed nearly all of the \$10 billion in subsidies under its ambitious semiconductor manufacturing incentive policy, the government has prepared a blueprint for the second phase of the scheme — it could increase the outlay of the programme to \$15 billion, offer capital support for raw materials and gases used in chip manufacturing, and reduce subsidies for assembly and testing plants. The Indian Express had earlier reported. In an internal note prepared with the projections for the renewal of the scheme, the government has also decided to reduce the capex subsidy for assembly and testing plants (ATMP/OSAT) from the current 50 per cent to 30 per cent for conventional packaging technologies, and 40 per cent for advanced packaging technologies. The government also does not want to support technology transfer costs under the new incentive scheme, it is understood. This means that companies partnering with others for using their chip manufacturing technology may have to pay out of their own pocket. Under the new scheme, the government could also offer capital equipment and ecosystem support such as gases, chemicals, and raw materials needed at assembly and testing plants. It could also look at incentivising fabrication of micro-LED displays. It is also learnt that Micron Technology's ATMP plant in Gujarat's Sanand is running 133 days behind schedule, due to the company's inability to hire sufficient construction headcount. The Tatas have sought that the requirement for PSMC to demonstrate capability to manufacture 28 nanometre chips should be exempted for extending fiscal support for the node. The government is considering the company's request, but has not come to a conclusion yet.

## How jowar and foxtail millet can help with acidity issues during pregnancy, aid weight loss



Millets have gained immense traction in the last few years owing to their numerous health benefits. But did you know that millets like jowar (sorghum) and foxtail can be beneficial for managing acidity issues during pregnancy, and also aid one's weight loss journey? That's what dietitian Sejal Ahuja pointed out on social media, making us turn to Dr Deepika Jayaswal, consultant dietitian and nutritionist, Motherhood Hospitals, Sarjapur, Bengaluru to learn more. Benefits for acidity issues during pregnancy: High fibre content: Both jowar and foxtail millet are rich in dietary fibre, which helps in improving digestion and preventing acid reflux by ensuring smooth bowel movements.

\*Alkaline nature: These grains have an alkaline nature, which can help neutralise stomach acid and reduce acidity issues. \*Nutrient-rich: They are packed with essential nutrients such as magnesium, calcium, and B vitamins, which are important for overall health during pregnancy and can help maintain a balanced digestive

system. \*Gluten-free: Being naturally gluten-free, jowar and foxtail millet are less likely to cause digestive issues compared to gluten-containing grains, making them easier on the stomach, said Jayaswal. \*Low glycemic index: Both jowar and foxtail millet have a low glycemic index, which helps in regulating blood sugar levels and can prevent spikes in insulin, thereby aiding in weight management. \*High protein content: They provide a good amount of plant-based protein, which helps in building muscle mass and increasing satiety, reducing overall calorie intake.

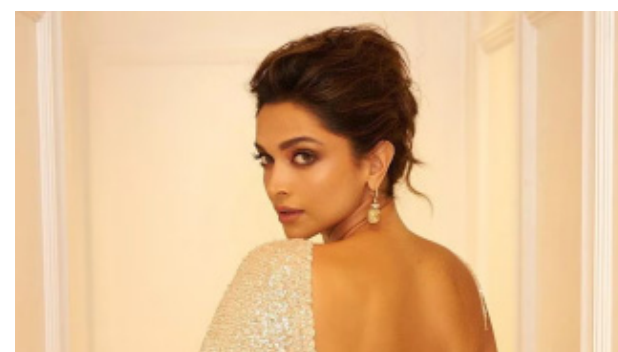
\*Complex carbohydrates: These grains are rich in complex carbohydrates, which are digested slowly, providing sustained energy and keeping you feeling full for longer periods, thus preventing overeating. \*Low in calories: They are also relatively low in calories, making them an excellent choice for those looking to lose weight without compromising on essential nutrients. How to incorporate jowar and foxtail millet into your diet? \*Breakfast porridge: Prepare a nutritious porridge using jowar or foxtail millet, adding fruits and nuts for extra flavour and nutrition. \*Salads: Use cooked jowar or foxtail millet as a base for salads, mixing in fresh vegetables, lean protein, and a light dressing. \*Soups and stews: Add these grains to soups and stews to enhance their nutritional value and make them more filling. \*Breads and rotis: Substitute wheat flour with jowar or foxtail millet flour to make healthier bread, rotis, or flatbreads. \*Snacks: Make healthy snacks like millet-based granola bars or savory puffed millet for a nutritious alternative to traditional snacks.

## Deepika Padukone's former nutritionist reveals actor's secret to glowing skin: 'The results were for all to see'

After revealing Deepika Padukone's diet, her former nutritionist Shweta Shah has shared the secret to the actor's glowing skin. Shah, who met Deepika Padukone around her wedding in 2018, said the mum-to-be wanted glowing skin, for which she was recommended a juice that "she drank every day for three months". "I met Deepika before her marriage. All she wanted was glowing skin and hair. She drank this juice regularly for three months. The results were for all to see," said Shah.

Ingredients: Pudina or mint leaves, Coriander leaves, Neem leaves, Curry leaves, Beetroot, Curry leaves. The recipe has curry leaves. (Source: Getty Images/Thinkstock) Method: In a blender, add mint, coriander leaves, neem leaves, curry leaves and beetroot. How effective is this juice?

When these components are mixed with water, a delightful and possibly healthy beverage is produced, said Sushma PS, chief dietitian, Jindal Naturecure Institute. "Due to their distinct qualities, coriander, mint, and neem can help with detoxification and digestion," said Sushma. Drinking a healthy juice with ingredients like mint leaves, coriander leaves, neem leaves, curry leaves, and beetroots might work in enhancing overall well-being. However, its effectiveness in helping with glowing skin is debatable, stressed Dr Rinky Kapoor, consultant dermatologist, cosmetic dermatologist and dermato-surgeon, The Esthetic Clinics. "People often look for some sort of shortcuts and hacks to achieve long-lasting skin ben-



efits," added Dr Kapoor. It can also affect your gut health resulting in digestive problems like indigestion, constipation, gas, and diarrhea, pointed out Dr Kapoor. "People with certain skin problems like rosacea, acne, eczema, and dermatitis should avoid drinking this juice in excess as it can cause flare-ups and allergic reactions," Dr Kapoor stressed. One should consider consulting a doctor before trying these hacks to ensure their safety. According to Dr Kapoor, glowing skin requires collective efforts like healthy food choices, cutting down on sugar and excessive sodium, drinking 1 to 2 liters of water per day, and a workout regime for more than 45 minutes. "Incorporating a skincare routine might help achieve that naturally glowing skin," said Dr Kapoor.

## Content creator allegedly scammed by taxi driver in Kazakhstan; expert shares common travel scams to watch out for and ways to avoid them



Travelling can be an enriching experience, but it also comes with its own set of risks, including the potential for scam. Indian travel content creator, Komal Maheswari, revealed that she experienced a distressing situation when a local taxi driver in Kazakhstan scammed her. She claimed that the taxi driver initially quoted a fare of 1,000 Tenge (about Rs 170), but ultimately charged her a staggering 77,000 Tenge (around Rs 13,000). "If I were travelling solo, I would have booked a day flight and pre-booked my cab but because I wasn't and I just landed in a new country, I was more happy than aware, and wasn't in the mindset that a scam can happen with me right away!" she captioned the post where she detailed the incident.

Understanding the types of scams that are prevalent in different regions and learning how to avoid them can make a significant difference in ensuring a smooth and enjoyable trip. Anjali Gupta, director, Y Not Travel, tells indianexpress.com, "When travelling internationally, it's crucial to activate international roaming on your phone and avoid relying on local SIM cards. Download essential apps with your credit or debit card already added. Opt for branded hotels, especially in less developed countries, even if they come at a higher cost." Common scams to look out for when travelling abroad: Pickpocketing:

Thieves use distractions to steal valuables. Keep your belongings secure and stay alert in crowded places. Commissioned Factory Visits: Drivers may take you to overpriced shops for commissions. Choose your own destinations. Restaurant Scams: Some drivers recommend restaurants where they get a commission, often at inflated prices. Stick to trusted suggestions.

Long Taxi Routes: Drivers may take longer routes to increase the fare. Use GPS or ride-hailing apps to track your journey. Begging Scams: Organised groups may ask for money or goods. Donate to reputable charities instead.

Money Exchange Scams: Beware of counterfeit money or shortchanging at unofficial exchanges. Use established banks. Fake Police: Scammers posing as police may demand bribes. Always ask for proper identification. 'Closed' Attractions: Scammers may divert you to commission-based spots by claiming attractions are closed. Verify attraction status online. Fake Tickets: Purchase tickets from official vendors to avoid overpriced or fake tickets. Overpriced Souvenirs: Some shops inflate prices for tourists. Research and bargain where possible. 'Helpful' Locals: Be cautious of locals who offer to guide you to shops or demand payment. Navigate independently if possible.

## Stay Healthier with Amazon: Your Path to Better Health

In today's always-on world, the 9-to-5 grind has turned into a 24/7 hustle. Whether it's burning the midnight oil or tackling tasks at dawn, people are redefining what it means to work "normal" hours. With laptops in bed, coffee on standby, and deadlines that don't care about time zones, the modern workday is officially clock-free—and that's just the new normal! Amidst these whirlwind of work calls and crazy schedules, sticking to a balanced diet can feel like an uphill battle. With meals often rushed or skipped, and food choices sometimes more convenient than nutritious, it's no wonder our nutrient game can fall short. Enter nutritional supplements — the unsung heroes swooping in to fill those pesky gaps! Whether it's vitamins, protein, or probiotics, Amazon brings the world of power-packed essentials to our doorsteps keeping our health on point, even when life gets chaotic. You read it right! To celebrate World Nutrition Week, Amazon.in is featuring special offers: shop between September 1st and 7th to take advantage of exclusive deals on a wide range of nutritional supplements. Despite our best efforts to eat a balanced diet, certain nutrients may still be under-consumed. Factors like limited food choices, cooking methods, or even lifestyle preferences can contribute to this shortfall. Nutritional supplements are designed to fill these gaps, ensuring that your body receives the necessary vitamins, minerals, and other nutrients it needs to function at its best.

Whether you're looking to support your overall health, enhance your immune system, or focus on specific dietary needs, there are various supplements available to meet your goals: Wellbeing Nutrition Pure Korean Marine Collagen Supplement: This supplement supports skin elasticity and joint health, making it an excellent addition to your daily routine. Horlicks Women's Plus Caramel Nutrition Drink: A great source of calcium and vitamin D, essential for bone health, particularly in women. Centrum Women Multivitamin: As the world's No.1 multivitamin, it offers comprehensive support for women's health, covering everything from energy levels to immunity. Torrent Shelcal Pro Gummies: Perfect for those looking for a fun and easy way to increase their calcium and vitamin D intake. Nangrow Nutritious Milk Drink Powder: Ideal for growing children, providing them with the necessary nutrients to support their development. Cosmix No Nonsense Plant Protein: A plant-based protein powder that is perfect for vegans and those looking to increase their protein intake naturally. Ensure Nutritional Drink Powder for Adults: Clinically proven to provide balanced nutrition for adults, ensuring they receive all the essential vitamins and minerals. Pintola All Natural Peanut Butter Crunchy: A delicious and nutritious way to add protein and healthy fats to your diet. Tata GoFit Himalayan Apple Cider Vinegar: Known for its numerous health benefits, including aiding digestion and weight



management. Dabur Honey: A natural sweetener with antioxidant properties, making it a healthier alternative to sugar. GNC Triple Strength Fish Oil Omega 3 Capsules: Essential for heart and brain health, providing high-quality omega-3 fatty acids. What's Up Wellness Biotin Gummies: These gummies support healthy hair, skin, and nails. Sugar Free Green Stevia Pouch: A natural and calorie-free sweetener, ideal for those looking to reduce their sugar intake. What's Up Wellness Melatonin: Helps in improving sleep quality, making it easier to fall asleep and stay asleep. Cosmix My Happy Gut: A blend designed to support digestive health, packed with prebiotics and probiotics. The Good Bug Metabolically Lean SuperGut Powder: Aids in digestive health and metabolism, supporting overall gut health. RiteBite Max Protein Daily Choco Almond Protein Bars: A convenient and delicious way to increase your protein intake on the go. Supradyn Daily Multivitamin: India's No.1 multivitamin, perfect for both men and women looking to enhance their daily nutrient intake. Complian Nutrition Drink Powder for Children: Provides essential nutrients to support children's growth and development. Protinex Diabetes Care Drink Mix: Specially formulated to support the nutritional needs of adults with diabetes. HealthyHey Nutrition Magnesium Glycinate: High absorption magnesium supplement to support muscle and nerve function. Wellbeing Nutrition Melts Vegan Vitamin B12 Supplements: Convenient B12 supplementation, perfect for those following a vegan diet.

Why Shop on Amazon?

When it comes to purchasing nutritional supplements, Amazon is your go-to online destination. During World Nutrition Week, you can explore a wide selection of high-quality products across categories, including gourmet groceries, cleaning essentials, wellbeing, and personal and family care. Amazon.in offers products from both international and local/regional brands at great value. Additionally, with fast and reliable deliveries, you can enjoy the convenience of having your essential supplements delivered straight to your door.

## Single filing with exchange to be reality very soon: Sebi chief

Capital markets regulator Sebi Chief Madhabi Puri Buch on Monday said a single disclosure by listed companies on one stock exchange will soon be automatically uploaded on the other bourse. This comes after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) recently proposed sweeping changes to disclosure as well as listing requirements by listed companies based on recommendations from a committee led by S K Mohanty, former whole-time member of Sebi. Speaking at a CII event, Sebi chairperson said, "a single filing with the exchange will be a reality very soon." As part of the proposed changes, a filing made on one exchange will automatically collate on the other exchange, she said. A filing made on one exchange will automatically collate on the other exchange.

Additionally, Buch said soon investors will be able to start SIP (Systematic Investment Plan) with as low as Rs 250 per month. "We are on the way of Rs 250 SIP becoming a reality," she said. Buch avoided commenting on Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), but said there are regulations simplifying such entities. "If I utter a word on REITs, I will be accused of conflict of interest," she added. The remarks came as US short-seller Hindenburg



Research raised questions about a potential conflict of interest involving Buch and private equity major Blackstone. Her husband Dhaval Buch is a senior advisor with Blackstone, a major player in the REIT space. However, the couple refuted the allegations. Also, Hindenburg alleged that Sebi's recent amendments to REIT regulations 2014 favoured a specific financial conglomerate, which Sebi denied. The Sebi chief highlighted plans to make IPO documents available in multiple languages to remove language barriers and increase investor awareness.

## Rishab Shetty, Jr NTR, Prashanth Neel trek to Keshavanatheshwara Temple in traditional veshti.



puja. The video ends with them feeding the fish in the water as they head back.

On the day of his visit, Saturday, Jr NTR too shared a set of photos from his trip on Instagram. Sharing the photos, the actor wrote, "At the Sri Keshavanatheshwara Temple, Moodgal, Keradi." In the photo, the actor can be seen posing with his wife Lakshmi Pranathi, Rishab Shetty and Prashanth Neel. Their visit to the temple was covered by the media. During a media interaction, a reporter asked the RRR star if he will be seen in Rishab Shetty's Kantara: Chapter 1. Jr NTR replied, "I am ready to do the film if Rishab Shetty has some plan."

A day before his visit, the RRR star visited the Udipi Sri Krishna Matha temple in Kundapura. Sharing his experience, the actor wrote, "My mother's forever dream of bringing me to her hometown Kundapura and seeking darshan at Udipi Sri Krishna Matha has finally come true! To make it happen just before her birthday on September 2nd is the best gift I could give her." On the work front, Jr NTR will be seen next in the Koratala Siva film Devara: Part 1. The movie, also starring Janhvi Kapoor and Saif Ali Khan in the lead roles, is scheduled to release on September 27. He has also signed a film with Prashanth Neel. Meanwhile, Rishab Shetty is preparing for the sequel of his National Award-winning film Kantara.

Jr NTR's trip to Karnataka was no less than an adventure as the RRR star was accompanied by KGF director Prashant Neel and Kantara star Rishab Shetty. The trio along with their wives visited the Sri Keshavanatheshwara Temple in Moodgal, Keradi. On Monday, Rishab shared a video from their visit on his Instagram handle.

In the video, Rishab, Jr NTR, and Prashant could be seen dressed in shirts and veshti, trekking their way through the mud. The next few frames shows the trio reaching the temple which is filled with water. Tying their veshti up, they reach near the idol and take part in the

## Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh share glimpses from pregnancy photoshoot ahead of due date



Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh are all set to embrace parenthood. The couple is due later this month. Ahead of their first child's arrival, Deepika and Ranveer shared pictures from their pregnancy photoshoot. In the pictures, mom-to-be Deepika can be seen flaunting her baby bump. In other pictures, the couple can be seen sharing happy moments with wide smiles and infectious laugh. In the photos, Deepika can be seen wearing several outfits. While the first few pictures show the actress wearing a mom jeans paired with a lacy bra and cardigan, in other photos, Deepika can be seen channeling boss lady vibes in black pantsuit. The third outfit was a see through maxi dress, in which the

actress could be seen swirling and thinking. Deepika wore a black see through bodycon dress for her fourth look, in which she posed with her husband Ranveer.

Sharing the photo, the couple just dropped a couple of emojis in the caption. Their post attracted several reactions from their fans. Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh shared their pregnancy news on February 29, hours before heading to Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's pre-wedding bash in Jamnagar. The couple shared a post card that read the month September along with cute drawings of baby accessories. Deepika and Ranveer tied the knot in 2018 after dating for several years. The couple is expecting their first child together.

## Honey Singh recalls waiting for 12 hours with makeup to shoot Lungi Dance: 'They were testing my patience'

Honey Singh, known for his hit tracks like "Angreji Beat", "Lungi Dance" and "Desi Kalakar," among others, recently revealed the "craziest" experience he had on the sets of Chennai Xpress, while shooting for the song "Lungi Dance". Singh recently spoke to Cine Connect. During the conversation, the rapper was asked to reveal one funny thing he experienced on the sets of "Lungi Dance". The rapper revealed, "The only funny moment from the Lungi dance set is that they called me and made me sit for up to 12 hours with makeup. It was their plan to make me wait. They were like, 'This guy is so excited to be part of this shoot, let us make him wait.' I was sitting for 12 hours, and whoever visited the set, they came to me and greeted me and spoke to me kindly including Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone who was accompanied by Ranveer Singh."



"I couldn't understand what was going on because everybody's behaviour was quite nice, but they were not taking my shot. You won't believe, they took my shot at the end and after that they said, 'Pack up.' So that was the craziest and funniest thing. They were testing my patience," added the 41-year-old rapper.

In another interview with Lallantop, Honey Singh revealed the stupidest song of his career. He said, "The most stupid song I have ever written in my life is 'Blue Hai Paani Paani'. Is this even a song? What kind of a song is 'Blue Hai Paani Paani, Din Hai Sunny Sunny'? It's non-

sense. To be honest, look at all the songs; is there any substance? I can understand 'Brown Rang' as a song; it's written in a certain way. 'Blue Eyes' praises beauty."

The rapper also criticised his song "Lungi Dance" and said, "Don't know what I was doing, and people were putting me on a pedestal. Today when I look back, and I have to perform these songs, I laugh at myself. They are still dancing to these songs. I still get revenue from these songs because they are still played." "Lungi Dance", released in 2013, was a tribute to South superstar Rajinikanth. The song became a chartbuster. The song's hook step too became quite viral. "Blue Hai Pani" (2013) too gained popularity upon its release.

## Authorities swing into action after firing outside AP Dhillon's Vancouver house

Mumbai: Shots were reportedly fired outside the house of Punjabi singer A.P. Dhillon in Victoria Island in Canada's Vancouver. As per sources, the incident occurred on Sunday following which a persons named Rohit Godara, a member of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, reportedly took responsibility for the shooting incident. A video capturing the shooting has now emerged which is under the scrutiny of the security agencies. The incident has drawn significant media attention due to Dhillon's prominent status in the music industry, and the potential implications of the attack.

As per reports, dreaded criminal Goldie Brar, who is reportedly based in Canada, is also suspected to be behind the incident, though an official word from the law enforcement authorities in Canada is awaited. Goldie Brar is a member of incarcerated gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's

gang. The gang is known for its involvement in a number of high-profile crimes, including the murder of several high-ranking police officials. Authorities are actively looking into the incident to ascertain the motive behind the shooting and to ensure the safety of Dhillon and his neighbours in Vancouver. Dhillon is known for blending the 80s style synth-pop with Punjabi music. His rise on the global canvas has been meteoric owing to songs like 'Brown Munde', 'Excuses', 'Summer High', and 'Insane', among others. Goldie Brar has been designated as a terrorist under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act by the Ministry of Home Affairs in India. The Ministry has cited his association with Babbar Khalsa International, a listed terrorist organisation, and his involvement in killings, cross-border activities, arms smuggling, and extortion. He has also been named among the top 25 most wanted fugitives by Canada's BOLO

## Zeenat Aman on why she failed to have meaningful relationships: 'Men's intent was obvious but shallow'



Veteran Bollywood actor Zeenat Aman recently took to Instagram, reflecting on how her public image hindered her ability to form "meaningful relationships." Bollywood actor Zeenat Aman with her late husband, actor Mazhar Khan. (Images: Zeenat/Instagram, Legendary Bollywood actor Zeenat Aman has always been in the public eye, with both her personal and professional lives attracting constant attention from fans and industry insiders alike. Known as Hindi cinema's 'original glam diva,' the 72-year-old faced a failed marriage, and failed relationships. In 1978, Zeenat Aman's name was attached to Sanjay Khan, who was already married and had four children. Their relationship ended publicly in 1979 after he allegedly assaulted her. Later, in 1985, she wed actor Mazhar Khan, but their relationship ended more than a decade later and Mazhar passed away in 1998. The marriage was admittedly thorny.

On Monday, the veteran actor took to her Instagram account, reflecting on how her public image has hindered her ability to form "meaningful relationships." She wrote, "I have not had too many. I didn't dwell on it when I was younger, but now I have been giving it some thought. There is a saying - it's lonely at the top. Well, it's lonely at the bottom too. I have experienced both," the actor wrote

while sharing an old picture of herself. "In my own private examination of my life, I have realised a crude truth. Meaningful relationships have been difficult to come by because my public persona has always overshadowed my true self. The idea that people have of me has been something of a prison, even while it has been a privilege. With men, their intent was almost always obvious, which was flattering but ultimately shallow. And with women... the nature of society, especially back in those days, forced comparisons that led to envy in one too many cases." "What is the measure of a meaningful relationship then? For me it is when there is reciprocity - in celebrating each others successes, enduring the bad times together, being able to speak and receive home truths, and above all, reaching a point where your outward masks (and don't we all have them?) can be removed. Sadly, I have had limited success in this arena. The silver lining is that it has made me cherish those meaningful relationships I do have all the more," she noted.

"Perhaps I have bored you with this pontification, but it is followed by this one earnest wish - that each of you finds meaningful relationships, romantic or otherwise, to add brilliance to your lives," she concluded, extending her best wishes to her fans. Years ago, during an appearance on the show Rendezvous with Simi Garewal, Aman spoke about her marriage to Mazhar Khan, an actor-director who was less successful than her. "At that time, I was ready for motherhood, more than anything. I felt my biological clock was ticking and I really wanted to have children. And truly that was the chief reason why I got married because I genuinely believe that the only reason to be married is to have a family. And I felt ready for that at that time. And so I did." Aman also opened up about Mazhar Khan's death in 1998 and the events leading up to their separation. She claimed that he had become addicted to prescription drugs and that his death was due to a kidney ailment. She also revealed that she was barred from attending his last rites.

## Kangana Ranaut 'disappointed' with India as Emergency postponed, takes a dig at IC 814 The Kandahar Hijack: 'Censorship is only for...'

Kangana Ranaut faced a major set back after her much talked about film Emergency was postponed after not being able to secure a clearance from the Censor Board Of film Certification (CBFC). The film was supposed to release on September 6. In a recent interaction with Shubhankar Mishra in a podcast, Kangana spoke about facing censorship and expressed her disappointment. She said, "It's a very hopeless state. I'm quite disappointed in our country and whatever the circumstances are... How much will we keep getting scared? I've made this film with a lot of self-respect which is why the CBFC can't point out any contention. They've stalled my certificate, but I'm determined to release an uncut version of the film. I'll fight in court and release an uncut version."

Kangana also drew parallels between Emergency and Netflix series IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack on X (formerly Twitter). She said censorship is only for those who make films based on historic facts while violence and nudity can be shown on streamers. She wrote, "Law of the land is that one can show unimaginable amount of violence and nudity on OTT platforms without any consequence or censorship, one can even distort real life events to suit their politically motivated sinister motives, there is all the freedom for communists or leftists across the world for such anti national expressions but as a nationalist no OTT platform allows us to make films that revolves around the integrity and unity of Bharat, it seems censorship is only for some of us who don't want tukde of this nation and make films on historic facts. It's hugely demotivating and unjust."

During the interaction with Shubhankar, the ques-



tion about Kangana's marriage was also raised but she quickly dismissed such rumours and said, "Itane lafdo ke beech mein kaise shaadi karu (How do I marry when I am caught up in so many hurdles). Jo log meri filmein nahi aane dete, wo mera ghar basne denge kya (Those who are not letting my film release, how will they let me settle down)." Kangana also addressed link up rumours with actor-turned-politician Chirag Paswan and revealed that things have been awkward between them ever since photos and videos of them meeting at the parliament went viral. "We both were thinking what is happening. It was awkward in parliament. I don't know how are media people think like this," she added. Apart from playing the lead role former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Kangana has also directed and co-produced Emergency. The film is based on a screenplay by Ritesh Shah and story written by Ranaut.

## Senior Malayalam actor Sheela flays those demanding proof in harassment cases: 'Can we take selfie when someone suddenly hugs or kisses us?'

Although Sheela personally has not experienced harassment, she did not dismiss the traumatic experiences shared by many survivors recently. Actor Sheela, one of the senior most members of Malayalam film industry, has extended solidarity to the women who have been facing challenges.

The latest wave of the MeToo movement in Kerala has already gained significant momentum and shaken the foundations of many powerhouses, with the accused facing both legal heat and public outrage. Meanwhile, various organisations associated with Malayalam cinema, including the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA) and the Film Employees Federation of Kerala (FEFKA), are also under heavy scrutiny for their actions - or lack thereof - and their past attempts to dismiss similar complaints as isolated cases.

The release of the Justice Hema Committee report and several allegations of sexual misconduct



that surfaced against many male industry members, including those from AMMA, in its aftermath, has created a rift in the industry, with various celebrities either supporting the survivors or backing the powerhouses that are in denial and have taken a defensive stand. Now, legendary actor Sheela, one of the senior most members of the industry, has come forward extending solidarity to the women who have been facing these challenges. "I know the struggles women go through to act in movies. There are some who come to cinema for finan-

cial reasons, while others are driven by their love for the craft. It is disheartening to see them struggle." Manorama Online quoted her as saying. Although she personally has not experienced harassment, Sheela did not dismiss the traumatic experiences shared by many survivors recently. The National Award-winning actress also mentioned hearing numerous accounts from women on set about their unfortunate experiences.

"Back then, there were neither the opportunities nor the circumstances to

speak out openly. I don't understand why only certain actors' names are being mentioned when so many are involved. If anyone is guilty, they should be punished," she said, while also expressing pride in the Women in Cinema Collective (WCC) for their efforts to support women in the industry. The 79-year-old thespian further criticised those demanding proof in cases of harassment. "The police and courts ask for proof. Can we take a photo or selfie when someone suddenly comes and hugs or kisses us? Are we expected to say, '

## World No.1 shuttler Nitesh Kumar beats Brit Bethell for first time to clinch biggest title of career



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Paralympics 2024 Nitesh Kumar gold medalist Nitesh Kumar celebrates on the podium. One of the most famous sports quotes of all time belongs to tennis player Vitas Gerulaitis. By beating Jimmy Connors in the Masters Championships at Madison Square Garden in 1980, Gerulaitis ended a long streak of losses. Connors had got the better of him 16 times in a row. Gerulaitis said, "Nobody beats Vitas Gerulaitis 17 times in a row."

It is hard to say if something similar came to Nitesh Kumar's mind after he beat Daniel Bethell of Great Britain in the gold medal match of Men's Singles SL3 Badminton at the Paris Paralympics on Monday. But the sentiment could have been similar. Nobody beats Nitesh Kumar 10 times in a row, perhaps. The Indian, who had not defeated Bethell in their nine past meetings, found a way in the biggest match of his life. Nitesh beat Bethell 21-14 18-21 23-21 in an 80-minute thriller to win India's second gold medal of the Paris Games. Intriguingly, world No 1 Nitesh came into this match as the underdog against world No 2 Bethell. Indeed, it was not lost on Nitesh, who had spoken after his semifinal about not being able to find a way against the Brit in the past. "I haven't won against him yet, but we've had some interesting games," he had said. "I don't want to think about the final at all. I don't want to stress myself out or waste the night's sleep thinking about it because that will spoil my recovery."

And whatever he did worked like a treat. For the most part. The final began as most top matches in SL3 para badminton category do. "Standing Lower 3" refers to the category for players with severe lower limb disabilities and matches are played on only half the court,

with the centre line acting as the out-line. In the restricted space, it is not easy to manufacture winners, and it requires a whole lot of patience, fitness and a sprinkling of creativity to find angles. Rallies that extend beyond two minutes are quite common. Nitesh Kumar celebration at Paralympics 2024 Paris 2024 Paralympics – Badminton – Men's Singles SL3 – Gold Medal Match – Porte de La Chapelle Arena, Paris, France – September 2, 2024 Kumar Nitesh of India celebrates after winning gold against Daniel Bethell of Britain. (REUTERS/Jennifer Lorenzini) Both players started the match patiently, careful not to give each other any early momentum. Then came a marathon rally after the mid-game interval when they extended the point to 162 seconds and 122 shots. The point eventually went to Bethell, who let out a big roar, but it proved to be a turning point for Nitesh.

After a brief breather, the 29-year-old Indian switched up his tactics, and started using his variations more. A wonderful stroke-player, Nitesh had been trusting his defence till that point but the smashes and reverse-slice drops kicked in as he raced through to take the opening game 21-14. The second game was much tighter and a proper back-and-forth affair till the very end. Nitesh missed a big chance to take a 19-17 lead with Bethell stranded on the court, but sent a lift long. Bethell then closed it out from there, put up his arm and let out a roar, as the match was back in the balance. The third game too was on a knife edge for the most part but at 15-10 it seemed Nitesh had things under control with Bethell showing signs of frustration. But the Tokyo silver medallist fought back once more, and both men had match point opportunities that were saved. In the end, it was Nitesh who took the decider 23-21.

"Even before stepping onto the court, I knew it was going to be a mental game. I just wanted to keep calm and that worked for me in the first game," Nitesh said after the match. "In the second game, I was leading and then somewhere in between I lost my focus and got too eager to get points. That is when he played some amazing points. In the third, it was very close. I got some good points, he got some good points, but in the end I knew it was going to be mental and I could keep my calm and pull it off." A train accident in 2009 in Vizag left Nitesh bedridden for months and resulted in permanent leg damage. But during his time pursuing Electrical Engineering at IIT-Mandi, he developed a love for badminton. And in Paris, he problem-solved his way like a good engineer, beating his bugbear Bethell when it mattered the most.

## Former Pakistan chief selector lashes out on Babar Azam: 'He was very stubborn...not ready to accept changes'

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

With Bangladesh standing on the verge of a first-ever Test series win in Pakistan, the home team have been under scanner for a poor show. This, to add to their humiliating exits from the last two ICC tournaments (ODI World Cup With Babar Azam experiencing a poor streak with the bat, the former Pakistan Test skipper has now been criticized as a 'stubborn' skipper by the former Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief selector Mohammad Wasim. Speaking to Cricket Pakistan, Wasim said, "It was painful to make him understand the advantages of changes. He was very stubborn, and I overstepped my limitations to get him on board with certain calls. He was not ready to accept changes."

Wasim added that the dressing room atmosphere was plagued by certain players, whom he tried to remove in his capacity as chief selector but to no avail. "I will not take names, but four coaches said that a group of players is cancer to the team. If they are part of the squad, Pakistan can't win. I tried to remove them from the team, but the team management recalled them," he said. Furthermore on the team culture, Wasim named players such as Imad Wasim and Azam Khan, who have been part of major tournaments despite suffering from injuries or fitness issues.

"Imad has a knee injury, but he has been hiding it for years. We always speak about Azam Khan's fitness lev-



els, but Imad is also suffering from the same problem. He was dropped from the side for that same reason, and I also dropped him during my tenure so that he could work on his fitness," he added. At Stumps on Day 4 of their second Test in Rawalpindi, Bangladesh need 143 runs with all 10 wickets intact to clean sweep the two-match Test series. If that happens, it will be the 10th Test that Pakistan have gone without winning at home. Following their loss after the first Test, PCB chief Mohsin Naqvi had blamed the lack of "talent pool" for national team's poor outings in the Test cricket. "The problem is the selection committee has no pool to turn to for high-quality replacement players. Losing to Bangladesh is sad but the selection committee had given the team 17 players," Naqvi had said.

## Who is Nitesh Kumar, badminton player who won gold medal at Paris Paralympics



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Nitesh Kumar wins gold medal: Nitesh Kumar, a para badminton player from Charkhi Dabri, Haryana, claimed India's second gold medal at the Paris Paralympics on Monday in Para badminton, after beating Great Britain's Daniel Bethell in the final of men's singles SL3 category. SL3 class players, like Nitesh, compete with more severe lower limb disabilities, requiring play on a half-width court. The 29-year-old Nitesh, who overcame permanent leg damage from a 2009 accident, showed his dominance with a (result) win over Bethell in the final. The IIT Mandi graduate thus ensured that India return with a medal from the SL3 category, after Pramod Bhagat clinched the gold when para badminton made its debut three years ago in Tokyo. Nitesh's journey

Growing up Nitesh's first love was football. However, a tragic accident in Vizag in 2009 shattered his aspirations, leaving him bedridden for months and with permanent leg damage. Despite this setback, Nitesh's love for sports remained unwavering. During his time at IIT-Mandi, Nitesh discovered a newfound passion for badminton. He honed his skills on the court, often challenging able-bodied. In 2016, Nitesh seized the opportu-

nity to represent Haryana at the Para Nationals in Faridabad. His impressive debut earned him a bronze medal, showcasing his immense potential. The following year, he continued his success, clinching silver in singles and bronze in doubles at the national championships.

Nitesh's crowning moment came in 2020, when he defeated Tokyo Paralympic medalists Pramod and Manoj to secure the gold medal at the National Championship. His dominance on the domestic tournament cemented his position as one of India's leading para-badminton athletes.

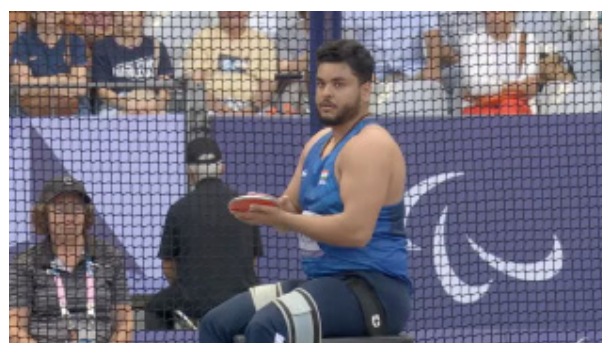
## How the OG Armless Archer Matt Stutzman scripted a stunning campaign to finally win archery gold

GNS News Agency, Sept 5

At the 2023 World Archery Para Championships in Pilsen, India's Sheetal Devi – the archer without arms from Jammu and Kashmir who has become a sensation over the past year or so – got the chance to meet the man who started it all. The OG. The man who goes by "Armless Archer" on his social media handles. Matt Stutzman of USA, who has gone above and beyond just being a popular Paralympian since making headlines at London 2012 by winning silver.

Twelve years ago, he was the only armless archer at the Games. Not anymore. After getting to meet Sheetal in Pilsen, and sharing some of his technical inputs regarding the scope in the bow, Stutzman had told World Archery: "I can retire now and be okay with everything. I've done really well, but the fact that we have other armless archers is way more important. It proves anybody can shoot a bow. You don't need arms to do that. Bows just want to be shot." He had said on a few occa-

## Discus thrower Yogesh Kathuniya was diagnosed with a neurological disorder at 9, now he is a two-time Paralympics silver medallist



GNS News Agency, Sept 5

Discus thrower Yogesh Kathuniya's parents wanted him to become a doctor, but there was a twist of fate when at the age of 9 he fell in a park and could not stand up. The doctors said he had Guillain-Barre Syndrome, a neurological disorder that hampers body movement and results in muscle weakness. He may not be able to walk again, they felt. But after years of treatment, including physiotherapy, he could stand using a crutch. The 27-year-old's second medal in the discus, a silver on Monday at the Paralympics in Paris to go with his silver in Tokyo three years ago, is a testament to his grit and fighting spirit. And of his mother Meena Devi who took him on a scooter, strapped in so her pre-teen son does not lose balance, to meet doctors at the Western Command Hospital in Chandimandir Cantt in Chandigarh. Doctors at the Base Hospital in Delhi were also consulted.

The Kathuniya family were watching Yogesh excel on the world stage at the family home in Ballabgarh. In the men's discus (F56) final, Yogesh threw a distance of 42.22 metres to finish second. F56 is a classification in which athletes compete in a seated position. "Yogesh was a very studious child and we wanted him to become a doctor. But he fell in the park one day and it seemed like most of his body was paralysed. When we took him to the command hospital, doctors told us about the Guillain-Barre syndrome. We did not know anything about it but doctors told us that he may not walk again. The Paralympic medals are due to the persistence of his mother and Yogesh's will power," Captain Gian Chand (Retd), Yogesh's father, who served in the EME in the Indian Army, said. "The only thing on my mind was how can I

make my son walk again. From spending hours at Base Hospital Delhi to learning physiotherapy and taking him for massages to different traditional centres in remote villages in Rajasthan and Haryana for months, I did everything," Devi recalls.

Once he got admission at the Kirori Mal College he met other para-athletes and was inspired. Among them was Asian medallist Neeraj Yadav. He also trained with coach Satya Pal and Dronacharya awardee coach Naval Singh at JLN Stadium. After medals at the national level, the youngster made it to the Indian Para team in 2018. "When he was to go for his first international event in 2018, friends like Neeraj Yadav and others helped fund his trip and it motivated him a lot," his mother recalls. Devi also oversees Yogesh's training along with two of his coaches and physiotherapist at the JLN Stadium. Yogesh has also opened an academy to train other para-athletes.

Within six months of his first international tournament, the youngster would finish fourth in 2018 Asian Para Games in Jakarta before winning a bronze medal in World Para Championship in Dubai, where he registered a throw of 42.05m. At Tokyo, Yogesh won the silver medal with a throw of 44.38m behind Rio Olympics champion Brazilian Claudiney Batista dos Santos, who threw 45.59m. In 2022 there was another setback after Yogesh was diagnosed with cervical radiculopathy, a nerve condition affecting the spinal cord. It took him six months to recover. "When he came to train with us, Yogesh still used support and he could not hold the discus properly because his fingers were bent due to the syndrome. We worked on that. Then our main task was to find a balance with the sitting position on the wheelchair before he could improve his throwing technique. While the progress was slow, gaining upper body strength and flexibility in arms helped him a lot," Coach Naval said. Over the last four years Yogesh has won a silver medal each in the World Para Championships in Paris and Japan. In 2022, Yogesh also created a new world record of 48.34m at the Open National Para Championship. He then won the silver medal in last year's Hangzhou Asian Para games with a throw of 42.13m. "Whenever he feels low he remembers the initial days of struggle. It keeps Yogesh going. He wants young para athletes to emulate him. He has set an example," Devi says. With back-to-back silver medals at the Paralympics, Yogesh has set a high bar.

## FIDE changes tiebreak rules for World Chess Championship

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If India's D Gukesh manages to beat Ding Liren at the World Chess Championship, he will become the youngest world champion in history. (Express Photo by Partha Paul) If India's D Gukesh manages to beat Ding Liren at the World Chess Championship, he will become the youngest world champion in history. Gukesh vs Ding Liren: The FIDE World Chess Championship clash between the current World Champion is Ding Liren and his teenage challenger from India, D Gukesh, will have different tiebreak rules as compared to the last World Chess Championship, where Ding Liren had defeated Ian Nepomniachtchi. At the 2023 World Chess Championship clash, Ding Liren had prevailed over Nepomniachtchi via the tiebreak. FIDE, the global governing body for chess, said that after consultations with both players, the format for tiebreaks was changed to introduce a gradual decrease in time controls.

What are new tiebreak rules for World Chess Championship?

The World Championship match is a 14-game encounter, with each game played in the classical format. The player who scores 7.5 points or more wins the World Championship Match. If the score after fourteen games is equal, then tiebreaks will be played in the rapid format first then the blitz format. In the 2023 tiebreak, the rules stipulated that players will play four games of 25 minutes plus a 10-second increment per move. If the score was still level after these four games, the match would proceed to the next tie-break stage, which was a blitz playoff. But in 2024, if the scores are level after 14 classical games, four games of 15 minutes (rather than 25 minutes) plus a 10-second increment per move. If the score remained level after these four games, a two-game rapid playoff of 10 minutes plus a 5-second increment per move would follow — this is an additional stage added.

In the 2023 world chess championship match between Ding Liren and Nepomniachtchi, the blitz stage of the playoff would see a two-game blitz playoff of five minutes plus a 3-second increment per move. If the score remained level after these two games, another two-game blitz playoff would follow, if the game is still tied, a single game of 3 minutes for each player + 2 seconds increment per move will be played. If this game is drawn, another



game of 3 minutes for each player + 2 seconds increment per move will be played will colors reversed. This was to be repeated until there is a decisive result.

But in the 2024 world chess championship match between Gukesh and Ding Liren, if the score remained level after the two-game rapid playoff of 10 minutes plus a 5-second increment per move a blitz playoff would be played. In this stage, there would be a two-game blitz playoff of 3 minutes plus a 2-second increment per move. If this did not yield a champion, a single game of 3 minutes for each player + 2 seconds increment per move would be played. If this game is drawn, another game of 3 minutes for each player + 2 seconds increment per move will be played will colors reversed. This will be repeated until there is a decisive result. When is the next World Chess Championship match? The tie-break, if needed, will be held on December 13, followed by the Closing Ceremony on December 14. The 2024 FIDE World Championship Match between Gukesh and Ding Liren will take place in Singapore's Resorts World Sentosa, a premier resort known for its world-class facilities, from 20 November to 14 December. How much is the prize money for World Chess Championship? The total prize fund for Gukesh vs Ding Liren match is \$2.5 million, with specific distributions based on game outcomes. The prize fund will be distributed as follows: Each player will receive \$200,000 for each game they win. The remaining prize money will be split equally between the players. If the winner is decided on a tie-break, the prize money will be divided as follows: the winner receives \$1,300,000, and the runner-up receives \$1,200,000.