



Alia Bhatt  
Returning As...

SHARE	
सेंसेक्स	: 82,948.23
निफ्टी	: 25,377.55

SARAFARAS	
सोना	: 6,795
चांदी	: 98.05

(नोट : सोना 22 कैरेट प्रति ग्राम)

BRIEF NEWS

समन मामले की सुनवाई अब 20 जनवरी को होगी

**RANCHI :** ईडी (प्रवर्तन निदेशालय) के कमरेन केस से जुड़े मामले में मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन से जुड़े केस की सुनवाई रांची के एमपी-एमएलए की विशेष कोर्ट में अब 20 जनवरी को होगी। सोमवार की सुनवाई के दौरान अदालत ने इस केस में नयी तारीख दी है। इससे पहले मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन के ऊपर ईडी द्वारा चर्ज शिकायत वाद (कंप्लेन केस) में व्यक्तिगत पेशी से छूट के लिए दायर याचिका रांची एमपी एमएलए की विशेष कोर्ट में 25 नवंबर को खारिज कर दी थी।

प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में रो पर्डी दिल्ली की सीएम आतिशी

**NEW DELHI :** सोमवार को दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री आतिशी भाजपा नेता रमेश बिडुड़ी के बयान का जवाब देते हुए रो पड़ी। आतिशी ने प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस कर कहा कि रमेश बिडुड़ी मेरे 80 साल के पिता को गाली दे रहे हैं। क्या आप चुनाव के लिए इतनी गंदी राजनीति करेंगे। मैंने कभी नहीं सोचा था कि इस देश की राजनीति इतनी गिर सकती है। आतिशी ने कहा- मैं रमेश बिडुड़ी से कहना चाहती हूँ, मेरे पिता पूरी जिंदगी शिक्षक रहे हैं। उन्होंने हजारों गरीब बच्चों को पढ़ाया है। अब उनकी उम्र 80 साल हो चुकी है और वे इतनी गंभीर स्थिति में हैं कि बिना सहारे चल भी नहीं सकते। रमेश बिडुड़ी अब ऐसी स्थिति में पहुंच गए हैं कि एक बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति को गालियां देकर वोट मांग रहे हैं।

निवेशकों के डूब गए

10.98 लाख करोड़ रुपये

**NEW DELHI :** हफ्ते के पहले कारोबारी दिन 6 जनवरी को सेंसेक्स 1258 अंक की गिरावट के साथ 77,964 के स्तर पर बंद हुआ। निफ्टी में भी 388 अंक की गिरावट रही, ये 23,616 के स्तर पर बंद हुआ। वहीं, बीएसई स्मॉलकैप 1778 अंक गिरकर 54,337 के स्तर पर बंद हुआ। सेंसेक्स के 30 शेयरों में से 27 में गिरावट और 3 में तेजी रही। निफ्टी के 50 शेयरों में से 43 में गिरावट और 7 में तेजी रही। जबकि एक शेयर बिना किसी बदलाव के बंद हुआ। निवेशकों के 10.98 लाख करोड़ रुपये डूब गए। एमएसई सेक्टरल इंडेक्स में सभी सेक्टर गिरावट के साथ बंद हुए।

दिल्ली में कांग्रेस ने लॉन्च की प्यारी दीदी योजना

**NEW DELHI :** सोमवार को विधानसभा चुनाव से पहले कांग्रेस ने दिल्ली में महिला सशक्तीकरण के लिए प्यारी दीदी योजना लॉन्च की। कांग्रेस ने दिल्ली में सरकार बनने पर कर्नाटक की तरह पर स्थानीय महिलाओं को प्यारी दीदी योजना के तहत ढाई हजार रुपये हर महीने देने का एलान किया है। संयुक्त संघादकता सम्मेलन में कांग्रेस के वरिष्ठ नेता एवं कर्नाटक के उपमुख्यमंत्री डीके शिवगुमार तथा पार्टी के दिल्ली प्रदेश प्रभारी काजी निजामुद्दीन ने उक्त घोषणा की।

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI :

सोमवार को झारखंड के मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन ने राज्यभर की महिलाओं के बैंक खातों में 2500-2500 रुपये ट्रांसफर कर उन्हें नए साल की बड़ी सौगात दी। नामकुम के खोजाटोली स्थित ट्रेनिंग ग्राउंड में आयोजित राज्यस्तरीय मईयां सम्मान कार्यक्रम में बटन दबाकर यह राशि महिलाओं के खातों में डाली गई। इससे राज्य की 56,61,791 महिला लाभुकों के चेहरे खुशी से खिल उठे। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि महिला और पुरुष एक हल के दो बैल होते हैं। जब तक दोनों साथ नहीं चलेंगे, तब तक विकास की कल्पना नहीं की जा सकती। हमने इस कदम से महिलाओं को न केवल आर्थिक रूप से सशक्त करने का लक्ष्य रखा है, बल्कि उन्हें राज्य के समग्र विकास में सक्रिय रूप से शामिल करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण पहल की है।

**जोहार से गुंज उठा इलाका :** सीएम हेमंत सोरेन जब कार्यक्रम स्थल पर पहुंचे तो पूरा इलाका जोहार से गुंज उठा। पारंपरिक गीत के साथ उनका स्वागत किया गया। इसके बाद वह पत्नी कल्पना सोरेन के साथ मंच पर चढ़े। उन्होंने कार्यक्रम में आई बहनों पर पुष्प वर्षा किया। वहीं हाथ हिलाकर उनका अभिवादन स्वीकार किया।

सीएम ने कहा- पति-पत्नी दोनों साथ चलेंगे, तभी की जा सकती है विकास की कल्पना

सबके बैंक खाते में ऑनलाइन ट्रांसफर किए 2500-2500 रुपये



● खुशी से खिल उठे लाभुकों के चेहरे, बरसाए गए फूल  
● वारों प्रमंडलों में 1415 करोड़ रुपये का किया गया वितरण  
● राज्य के विकास में अब बड़ी भूमिका निभाएंगी यहां की महिलाएं

महिलाओं को आर्थिक रूप से सशक्त करने के साथ विकास में शामिल करना है लक्ष्य

यह पैसा आपको निर्भर नहीं बल्कि आत्मनिर्भर बनाएगा

मुख्यमंत्री ने महिलाओं को यह विश्वास दिलाया कि अब वे अपने घर-परिवार और बच्चों की देखभाल के साथ-साथ अपने सपनों को साकार करने में सक्षम होंगी। अब आपके पास खुद के लिए पैसे हैं, जिनसे आप अपने बच्चों की पढ़ाई के साथ अपनी जरूरतों को पूरा कर सकती हैं। यह पैसा आपको निर्भर नहीं बनने देगा, बल्कि आत्मनिर्भर बनाएगा। मुख्यमंत्री ने भाजपा और अन्य विपक्षी दलों पर निशाना साधते हुए कहा कि चुनावों के दौरान कई दल झूठे वादे करते हैं और महिलाओं को दिग्भ्रमित करते हैं। मगर हम अपना वादा निभाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं। साथ ही उन्होंने महिलाओं से अपील करते हुए कहा कि इस



राशि का इस्तेमाल सही जगह पर करें। अब झारखंड की महिलाएं समझदार हैं और साथ निर्णय लेने की क्षमता रखती हैं।

राजकीय शोक के कारण स्थगित हुआ था कार्यक्रम

हेमंत ने कहा कि यह कार्यक्रम पहले 28 दिसंबर को होने वाला था, लेकिन पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह के निधन के कारण राज्य में सात दिनों का राजकीय शोक घोषित किया गया था।

हालांकि 26-27 दिसंबर को राज्य के विभिन्न जिलों में महिला लाभार्थियों के खातों में राशि का ट्रांसफर परीक्षण के तौर पर किया गया था। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार की यह पहल राज्य की

डीजीपी नहीं हुए हाजिर, कोर्ट नाराज हमारे आदेश को हल्के में न लिया जाए : हाईकोर्ट

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI :

झारखंड हाईकोर्ट ने होमगार्ड जवानों को समान काम के बदले समान वेतन देने के मामले में दायर अवमानना याचिका पर सुनवाई की। इस दौरान हाईकोर्ट के आदेश के पर सिर्फ गृह सचिव वंदना दादेल ही कोर्ट में हाजिर हुईं। हाई कोर्ट के पिछले आदेश के बाद भी डीजीपी के कोर्ट में सशरीर उपस्थित नहीं होने पर कोर्ट ने कड़ी नाराजगी की जताई। मौखिक कहा कि कोर्ट के आदेश को हल्के में न लिया जाए। कोर्ट ने अपने आदेश को संशोधित करते हुए अगली सुनवाई 8 जनवरी को डीजी होमगार्ड को कोर्ट में सशरीर उपस्थित होने का निर्देश दिया। पूर्व में कोर्ट ने राज्य सरकार को 25 अगस्त 2017 के प्रभाव से होमगार्ड जवानों को बढ़े हुए वेतन का लाभ देने का निर्देश दिया था। कहा कि आदेश की तारीख से पुलिसकर्मीयों के समकक्ष होमगार्ड



- गृह सचिव वंदना दादेल हुई उपस्थित
- अगली सुनवाई में डीजी होमगार्ड को उपस्थित होने का दिया निर्देश
- कोर्ट ने वेतन का लाभ देने का दिया था निर्देश

जवानों को समान कार्य के लिए समान वेतन का लाभ देना होगा। दो माह में एरियर का भुगतान करने का निर्देश दिया था। आदेश का अनुपालन नहीं होने पर 6 जनवरी को राज्य के गृह सचिव और डीजीपी को सशरीर हाजिर होने का निर्देश दिया था।



रेलवे इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर में 10 सालों में आया है विजिबल चेंज : प्रधानमंत्री मोदी

**SRINAGAR :** सोमवार को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंस के जरिए जम्मू के नए रेलवे डिविजन और तेलंगाना में चरलापल्ली न्यू टर्मिनल स्टेशन का उद्घाटन किया। पीएम ने ईस्ट कोस्ट रेलवे के रायगढ़ रेलवे डिविजन भवन की आधारशिला भी रखी। इस मौके पर उन्होंने कहा कि पिछला एक दशक भारतीय रेलवे के ऐतिहासिक ट्रांसफॉर्मेशन का रहा है। रेलवे इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर में एक विजिबल चेंज आया है। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा- पिछले 10 वर्षों में रेल कनेक्टिविटी का अद्भुत विस्तार हुआ है। 2014 तक देश में सिर्फ 35 प्रतिशत रेल लाइनों का इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन हुआ था।

सुरक्षाबलों के वाहन को नक्सलियों ने आईईडी ब्लास्ट कर उड़ाया छत्तीसगढ़ में नक्सली अटैक में 8 जवान शहीद, ड्राइवर की भी मौत

BIJAPUR @ PTI :

छत्तीसगढ़ के बीजापुर जिले में नक्सलियों ने जवानों को लेकर जा रहे वाहन को ब्लास्ट कर उड़ा दिया। इस हमले में दंतेवाड़ा डीआरजी के 8 जवान शहीद हो गए। एक ड्राइवर की भी मौत हुई है। आईजी, बस्तर रेंज सुंदर राज पी ने बताया कि बीजापुर से संयुक्त ऑपरेशन कर जवान वापस लौट रहे थे। सोमवार को करीब सवा 2 बजे गांव अंबेली के पास नक्सलियों ने आईईडी ब्लास्ट किया। अबूझमाड़ के जंगल में शनिवार देर रात मुठभेड़ में एक डीआरजी जवान प्रधान आरक्षक सन्तू कारम शहीद हुए थे। वहीं, जवानों ने एक महिला नक्सली समेत 5 माओवादियों को भी मार गिराया था।

ब्लास्ट इतना हेवी था कि जमीन पर बन गए 10 से 12 फीट के गड्ढे



बीजापुर में आईईडी ब्लास्ट में डीआरजी के जवानों को खोने की सूचना से उत्तर्क दुःखी हूं। वीर जवानों के परिजनों के प्रति गहरी संवेदनाएं व्यक्त करता हूं। इस दुःख को शब्दों में व्यक्त कर पाना असंभव है, लेकिन मैं विश्वास दिलाता हूं कि हमारे जवानों का बलिदान व्यर्थ नहीं जाएगा। हम मार्च 2026 तक भारत की भूमि से नक्सलवाद को समाप्त करके ही रहेंगे।

अमित शाह, केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री।

30 फीट दूर पेड़ पर लटका मिला वाहन का टुकड़ा

बीजापुर मुख्यालय से कुटूर गांव करीब 40 किलोमीटर दूर है। यहीं से कुछ दूर अंबेली गांव के पास यह ब्लास्ट हुआ है। मौके पर 10 से 12 फीट का गड्ढा दिखाई दे रहा है। वहीं, स्कॉर्पियो गाड़ी के भी परखच्चे उड़ गए। 30 फीट दूर पेड़ पर भी स्कॉर्पियो गाड़ी का एक टुकड़ा लटका दिखा। 3 दिन पहले ही गरियाबंद जिले के नक्सल प्रभावित सोरनामाल जंगल में सुरक्षाबलों ने 3 नक्सलियों को मार गिराया था।

डीआरजी (डिस्ट्रिक्ट रिजर्व गाई) और एसटीएफ (स्पेशल टास्क फोर्स) की टीम ने नक्सलियों को घेरा था। ऑपरेशन में छत्तीसगढ़ और ओडिशा के करीब 300 जवान शामिल थे। ओडिशा के नवरंगपुर की ओर से भी जवानों ने घेराबंदी की थी, जिससे नक्सलियों को भागने का मौका नहीं मिला। सुरक्षाबलों और नक्सलियों के बीच हुई मुठभेड़ के बाद तीन नक्सलियों के शव बरामद किए गए।

बरतें सावधानी, कोरोना जैसे चीनी वायरस का भारत में मिला तीसरा केस

**BENGALURU :** चीन में फैले कोरोना जैसे वायरस एचएमपीवी का भारत में तीसरा केस मिला है। अहमदाबाद में सोमवार को 2 महीने के बच्चे में ह्यूमन मेटात्र्यूमोवायरस (एचएमपीवी) का संक्रमण मिला। इससे पहले रविवार को सुबह कर्नाटक में 3 महीने की बच्ची और 8 महीने के बच्चे में यह वायरस मिला था। दोनों बच्चों की जांच बेंगलुरु के एक अस्पताल में की गई थी। गुजरात के अहमदाबाद में 2 महीने के बच्चे को तबीयत खराब होने पर 15 दिन पहले हॉस्पिटल में एडमिट कराया गया था। उस बच्चे को सदी और तेज बुखार था। शुक्रआती 5 दिन उसे वेंटिलेटर पर भी रखा गया था। इसके बाद हुई जांचों में वायरस के संक्रमण का पता चला। कर्नाटक के दोनों केस के बारे में केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने बताया कि बच्चे रूटीन जांच के लिए अस्पताल पहुंचे थे। टेस्ट कराने पर उनकी रिपोर्ट पोजिटिव आई।

दोनों तरफ से करीब 100 राउंड फायरिंग पलामू : चैनपुर में गैंगवार मारे गए दो लोग, दो जखमी

**PHOTON NEWS PLAMU :** झारखंड के पलामू जिले के चैनपुर में रविवार को देर रात लगभग 12:15 बजे दो गुटों में हुए गैंगवार में 2 लोगों को गोली मारकर मौत के घाट उतार दिया गया। अंधाधुंध फायरिंग हुई। दोनों तरफ से 100 राउंड फायरिंग की बात कही जा रही है। गोलीबारी में दो लोग घायल भी हो गए। घटना चैनपुर थाना क्षेत्र के गरदा गांव में हुई। मृतकों की पहचान भरत पांडेय और दीपक साव उर्फ ढोला के रूप में हुई है। अंशु सिंह और एक अन्य व्यक्ति घायल है। दोनों को एमएमसीएच में भर्ती कराया गया है। सोमवार को घटनास्थल से पुलिस ने 25 से अधिक खोखे बरामद किए हैं।



- घायलों को एमएमसीएच में कराया गया भर्ती
- घटनास्थल से पुलिस ने बरामद किए 25 से अधिक खोखे

बताया जा रहा है कि जिस घर में भरत पांडेय और दीपक रुके हुए थे, पहले उसका दरवाजा खुलवाया गया। जैसे ही घर का दरवाजा खुला, बाहर से आए लोगों ने अंधाधुंध फायरिंग शुरू कर दी।

खतरनाक हर साल जमा हो रहा 40 करोड़ टन जीवाश्म कार्बन

जैव संतुलन बिगाड़ रहा रबर और प्लास्टिक उत्पादों का अंबार

PHOTON NEWS, RESEARCH DESK :

अंधाधुंध हो रहे विकास के कार्यों से ऐसी स्थिति धीरे-धीरे आगे बढ़ रही है, जो पूरे जैव संतुलन के लिए खतरनाक है। यह स्थिति पर्यावरण और जलवायु को इतना विकृत कर देगी, जिससे जीवों के जीवन पर संकट खड़ा हो जाएगा और इसकी चपेट में मानव जीवन भी आएगा। इसकी भयावह स्थिति की जानकारी हाल में किए गए विशेष अध्ययन में सामने आया है। इस अध्ययन से इस सच का खुलासा हुआ है कि रबर-प्लास्टिक उत्पादों, इमारतों और बुनियादी ढांचे जैसी चीजों में हर साल करीब 40 करोड़ टन जीवाश्म कार्बन जमा हो रहा है। यह उत्पाद किसी कार्बन सिक की तरह काम कर रहे हैं। यह निष्कर्ष नीदरलैंड के ग्रोनिंगन विधि के शोधकर्ताओं के हाल के अध्ययन में सामने आए हैं। अध्ययनकर्ताओं का कहना है कि 1995 से 2019 के बीच 25 वर्षों में प्लास्टिक, इमारतों जैसे उत्पादों में करीब 840 करोड़ टन कार्बन जमा हो चुका है। इसमें हर साल करीब 40 करोड़ टन की वृद्धि हो रही है। अधिकांश कार्बन रबर और प्लास्टिक उत्पादों में जमा हो रही है।

नीदरलैंड के ग्रोनिंगन विधि के शोधकर्ताओं ने अपनी विशेष स्टडी में दी जानकारी जर्नल सेल रिपोर्ट्स सस्टेनेबिलिटी में प्रकाशित किए गए हैं अध्ययन के निष्कर्ष

जलवायु और पर्यावरण के लिए पैदा हो सकती है अत्यंत घातक स्थिति, 1995 से 2019 के बीच करीब 840 करोड़ टन कार्बन हो चुका है जमा



- भविष्य में ग्रीनहाउस गैसों के उत्सर्जन में हो सकती है बहुत अधिक बढ़ोतरी
- पिछले ढाई दशकों में तेजी से बढ़ी जीवाश्म ईंधन के उपयोग की रफ्तार

7 फीसद तक पहुंचा जीवाश्म ईंधन का यूज

विशेष अध्ययन में यह जानकारी दी गई है कि 1995 से 2019 के बीच उत्पादों को बनाने के लिए बहुत अधिक जीवाश्म ईंधन का उपयोग किया गया। यह उपयोग पांच से बढ़कर सात फीसदी से अधिक हो गया है। वैज्ञानिकों ने इस बात का भी अंदाजा जताया है कि ईंधन और सीमेंट से हो रहा कार्बन प्रदूषण 2024 में रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर पहुंच जाएगा। इमारतों और बुनियादी ढांचे में सबसे ज्यादा करीब 39 फीसद कार्बन जमा हो गया है। इसके बाद रबर और प्लास्टिक के बने उत्पादों में स्टोर हुआ, जो करीब 30 प्रतिशत था।

एकजुट होकर करना होगा मुकाबला

अध्ययन से जुड़े शोधकर्ता क्लॉस हुबार्सेक का कहना है कि अब हमारे पास प्रकृति की तुलना में मनुष्यों द्वारा बनाई चीजें, जैसे- प्लास्टिक और इमारतों में कहीं अधिक कार्बन है, लेकिन इसके बावजूद हम इसे अनदेखा कर रहे हैं। नतीजतन यह मात्रा लगातार बढ़ रही है। इसके पचाह के साथ-साथ इनके मंडार पर भी ध्यान जरूरी है। जीवाश्म ईंधन जैसे लकड़ी, कोयला, तेल या अन्य नमों के दहन से कार्बन का निर्माण तेजी से हो रहा है। कार्बन का अधिक उत्सर्जन होना अत्यंत नुकसानदायक है।



# राइफल व कारतूस के साथ दो उग्रवादी किए गए गिरफ्तार

## करां थाना क्षेत्र के रोन्हे जंगल से पकड़े गए विकास व निमेश गोप

AGENCY KHUNTI :

प्रतिबंधित नक्सली संगठन पीएलएफआइ के दो सक्रिय नक्सलियों को सोमवार को गिरफ्तार कर लिया। उनके पास से एक देसी रायफल और 11 जिन्दा कारतूस बरामद किये गये है। गिरफ्तार उग्रवादियों में विकास गोप और निमेश गोप शामिल हैं।

दोनों करां थाना क्षेत्र के रोन्हे गांव के रहने वाले हैं। इनकी गिरफ्तारी करां थाना क्षेत्र के रोन्हे जंगल से हुई है। यह जानकारी तोरपा के अनुमंडल पुलिस पदाधिकारी खिस्टोफर केरकेट्टा ने सोमवार को अपने कार्यालय में आयोजित प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में दी। एसडीपीओ ने बताया कि गिरफ्तार नक्सलियों के पास से



गामले की जानकारी देते एसडीपीओ खिस्टोफर केरकेट्टा

● फोटोन न्यूज

एक देसी रायफल के अलावा आठ एमएम का दो जिंदा कारतूस, 7.65 एमएम के नौ जिंदा कारतूस, दो मोबाइल फोन तथा पीएलएफआई का पर्चा बरामद किया गया है। उन्होंने बताया कि पुलिस अधीक्षक

अमन कुमार को गुप्त सूचना मिली थी कि प्रतिबंधित उग्रवादी संगठन पीएलएफआई के नक्सली रोन्हे जंगल में किसी घटना को अंजाम देने के लिए बैठक करने वाले है। इस सूचना के अलोक में अनुमंडल पुलिस

पदाधिकारी के नेतृत्व में टीम का गठन किया गया। टीम ने रोन्हे जंगल में छापेमारी कर पीएलएफआई के विकास गोप और निमेश गोप को हथियार के साथ गिरफ्तार किया। उनकी तलाशी लेने पर इनके पास से रायफल, गोली आदि बरामद किये गये। गिरफ्तार विकास गोप के खिलाफ पूर्व से करां थाना में आर्म्स एक्ट एवं 17 सीएलए एक्ट के तहत मामला दर्ज है। दोनों मामले में वह जेल जा चुका है। फिलहाल वह जमानत पर छूटा था। गिरफ्तार विकास गोप और निमेश गोप ने खुंटी में हुई फायरिंग की घटना के सम्बंध में महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी पुलिस को

दी। उन्होंने बताया कि फायरिंग में होटवार जेल में बंद शिवकुमार साहु ऊर्फ चरकू तथा खुंटी और रांची क्षेत्र में सक्रिय पीएलएफआई के उग्रवादियों का हाथ है। जो फिलहाल फरार हैं। एसडीपीओ ने बताया कि दहशत फैलाने के लिए फायरिंग की गयी थी। छापेमारी टीम में अनुमंडल पुलिस पदाधिकारी खिस्टोफर केरकेट्टा के अलावा पुलिस इंस्पेक्टर अशोक कुमार सिंह, करां थाना प्रभारी मनीष कुमार, रनिया थाना प्रभारी विकास कुमार थायासवाल, जरियागढ़ थाना प्रभारी राजू कुमार, सब इंस्पेक्टर दीपक कांत कुमार के अलावा अनीस बाला, तालकेश्वर यादव आदि शामिल थे।

## मोबाइल छीनने वाले दो लोग गिरफ्तार भेजे गए जेल



RAMGARH : रामगढ़ पुलिस ने मोबाइल छीनने के मामले में दो लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया है। उन दोनों के विरुद्ध रामगढ़ थाने में प्राथमिकी दर्ज हुई थी। थाना प्रभारी कृष्ण कुमार ने बताया कि पतरातू बस्ती मुंडा टोली निवासी राज मुंडा उर्फ धमकू और 13 वर्ष की एक अन्य युवक ने मिलकर मोबाइल छिनताई किया था। वे लोग बाइक पर सवार होकर निकलते थे और राह चलते लोगों के हाथ से मोबाइल छीन कर भाग जाते थे। इस मामले में थाना कांड संख्या 395/2024 दर्ज किया गया था। पुलिस छिनताई में प्रयुक्त मोटरसाइकिल को बरामद करने का प्रयास कर रही है।

## डालसा ने बच्चों व महिलाओं को बताए उनके अधिकार



जागरूकता अभियान में शामिल बच्चे व महिलाएं

● फोटोन न्यूज

KHUNTI : झालसा रांची के निर्देश पर प्रधान जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश सह डालसा अध्यक्ष रसिकेस कुमार के मार्गदर्शन में सोमवार को नालसा के जरिये संचालित 90 दिवसीय ‘आउटरीच अभियान पर जुरदाग पंचायत, सोलादेन पंचायत और आवासीय बालिका उच्च विद्यालय कुंदी में विधिक जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। यह कार्यक्रम लगातार 90 दिनों तक लगातार चलता रहेगा। इस अभियान में बच्चों के शिक्षा से जुड़े अधिकार, डायन प्रथा, वृद्धा, विधवा पेंशन से संबंधित मामलों की जानकारी दी गई। डालसा के पीएलवी ने कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित

लोगों को जागरूक करते हुए डायन प्रथा से संबंधित जुड़े अधिकार और इससे पीड़ित परिवार को सूचित करने का सही तरीका एवं जगह के बारे में जागरूक किया। उन्होंने बताया कि डायन शब्द कहकर किसी भी व्यक्ति को प्रताड़ित करना कानूनन अपराध है। इससे पीड़ित परिवार यदि थाने में सूचित करता है, तो उस व्यक्ति को सजा एवं जुर्माना दोनों हो सकता है। सही ही वृद्धा एवं विधवा पेंशन योजना के बारे में और विद्यालय के बच्चों को उनके शिक्षा के अधिकार तथा कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के बारे में जानकारी दी गई। यह जानकारी डालसा सचिव राजश्री अर्पणा कुजुर द्वारा दी गई।

### BRIEF NEWS

#### छिनतई का आरोपी गिरफ्तार, गया जेल

DUMKA : छिनतई के आरोप में जिले के मुफस्सिल थाना पुलिस ने एक आरोपी को गिरफ्तार कर सोमवार को जेल भेज दिया। गिरफ्तार आरोपी का नाम अनूप यादव उर्फ विशाल यादव है। वह रामपुर गांव का रहने वाला है। जानकारी के अनुसार पुलिस नगर थाना क्षेत्र के शिवमंदिर, हिजला रोड़ निवासी आलोक कुमार पाल के लिखित शिकायत पर मामला दर्ज करते हुए आरोपी को गिरफ्तार कर जेल भेजी है। लिखित शिकायत में आवेदक आलोक कुमार पाल ने बताया कि 05 जनवरी को रिंग रोड़ रामपुर में आरोपी रोक कर मोबाइल और पकित से 7500 रुपए निकाल लिया। उसके बाद धमकी देते हुए पे-फोन के यूपीआई नंबर की जबरन जानकारी लेकर 3500 रुपए ट्रांसफर कर लिया। मामले में पुलिस ने त्वरित कार्रवाई करते हुए आरोपी के खिलाफ सुसंगत धाराओं में मामला दर्ज करते हुए आरोपी को गिरफ्तार कर जेल भेज दिया। गिरफ्तार आरोपी का पूर्व से अपराधिक इतिहास रहा है। इसके खिलाफ वारंट भी निर्गत था।

#### तोरपा के नए थाना प्रभारी ने दिया योगदान

KHUNTI : सब इंस्पेक्टर मुकेश हेंब्रम तोरपा के नये थाना प्रभारी बनावे गये है। रविवार की देर शाम उन्होंने तोरपा थाने में योगदान दे दिया। तोरपा के निवर्तमान थाना प्रभारी प्रभात रंजन पाण्डेय का तबादला सोयको थाना प्रभारी के रूप में हुआ है। तोरपा के नये थाना प्रभारी मुकेश हेंब्रम ने सोमवार को कहा कि क्षेत्र में विधि व्यवस्था बनाये रखना उनकी प्राथमिकता है। आम लोग बेझिझक थाना आएँ तथा अपनी समस्या बतायें, उनकी समस्याओं का समाधान किया जायेगा।

#### श्मशान की जमीन को माफिया से बचाने की गुहार



PALAMU : पलामू जिले के नीलांबर पीतांबरपुर प्रखंड स्थित ढेला गांव के श्मशान घाट की जमीन को भू माफियाओं से बचाने को लेकर ग्रामीण गोलबंद हो चुके हैं। ग्रामीणों ने श्मशान घाट की जमीन को सुरक्षित करने को लेकर सोमवार को पांकी विधायक डॉक्टर कुशवाहा शशि भूषण मेहता से मिलकर गुहार लगाई। विधायक को जमीन से जुड़े कागजात एवं मांग पत्र सौंपा। इसके पूर्व ग्रामीणों के द्वारा लेखलीगंज थाना प्रभारी एवं अंचलाधिकारी को जमीन से जुड़े मामले से अवगत कराया गया था। ग्रामीणों ने विधायक को बताया कि अंचलाधिकारी की एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार ढेला गांव के खाता संख्या 164 प्लॉट संख्या 366 में श्मशान घाट के नाम पर 77 डिसमिल जमीन है। जिसे गांव के ब्यूम अंसारी के जरिये फर्जी तरीके से बेचने एवं अवैध कब्जा का प्रयास किया जा रहा है। ग्रामीणों के शिकायत पर विधायक ने तत्काल दृष्टभाष पर ही अंचलाधिकारी सुनील कुमार सिंह से बात की। उन्होंने ढेला गांव के श्मशान घाट की जमीन का सीमांकन कराने का निर्देश दिया। वहीं फर्जी तरीके से जमीन का कागज बनाकर श्मशान घाट की जमीन से जालसाजी करने वालों पर प्राथमिकी दर्ज करने का भी निर्देश दिया है।



कार्यशाला का उद्घाटन करते मत्स्य विभाग के निदेशक डॉ. एचएन द्विवेदी

## मछली पालन को प्रोत्साहित करेंगी पंचायतों की ब्रांड एंबेसडर : निदेशक

KHUNTI : जिला मत्स्य कार्यालय, खुंटी के परिसर में सोमवार को जिला स्तरीय कार्यशाला-सह-मत्स्य गोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन मत्स्य विभाग के निदेशक डॉ एचएन द्विवेदी ने दीप प्रज्वलित कर किया। कृषि मंत्री पशुपालन एवं सहकारिता के दिशा-निर्देश पर आयोजित कार्यशाला में निदेशक ने किसानों को वैज्ञानिक तरीके से मछली पालन करने के लिए प्रेरित किया। उन्होंने कहा कि मछली पालन को

प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए प्रत्येक पंचायत में ब्रांड एम्बेसडर नियुक्त किए जाएंगे। उन्होंने खुंटी जिले को मछली उत्पादन में अच्वल बनाने का लक्ष्य रखा और बताया कि जिले में 23 जलाशयों के 5000 हेक्टर क्षेत्र में मछली पालन की अपार संभावनाएं हैं। निदेशक ने बताया कि जिले के लगभग 4500 मत्स्य पालकों का नेशनल फिशरीज डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म पर लिबंदन करना आवश्यक है। ताकि वे मत्स्य विभाग की योजनाओं का लाभ ले सकें।

## गुरुगोबिंद सिंह के 358वें प्रकाश पर्व पर सजा भव्य कीर्तन दरबार

AGENCY PALAMU : सिखों के दशमगुरु, दशमेश पिता, खालसा पंथ के संस्थापक और हिन्दु धर्म-संस्कृति के रक्षक गुरुगोबिंद सिंह का 358 वां प्रकाश पर्व सोमवार को मनाया गया। इस अवसर पर गुरुद्वारा श्रीगुरु सिंह सभा, बेलवाटिका डालटनगंज में प्रातः की चौकी उपरांत भव्य दीवान सजाया गया। इसमें रागी जत्था के अलावा स्थानीय बच्चे, युवक-युवतियां उत्साह के साथ कीर्तन करने को नेहाल कर दिया। प्रकाश पर्व को लेकर मुख्य समारोह का आयोजन गुरुद्वारा में किया गया। इसमें टाटनगर से आए ज्ञानी हरमित सिंह एवं अन्य जत्था के द्वारा कीर्तन किया गया। समाज के बच्चों की ओर से प्रस्तुत कीर्तन ने संगत को भाव विभोर कर दिया।



गुरुद्वारा में कीर्तन करती महिलाएं

● फोटोन न्यूज

पूर्वाह्न 11 बजे मुख्य दिवान सजाया गया। ज्ञानी सुंदर सिंह ने अरदास की। सिख समाज के लिए समर्पित रहने पर श्री महावीर नवयुवक दल जेनरल द्वारा रजिन्दर सिंह बंटी को सम्मानित किया गया। दिवान की समाप्ति के बाद गुरुतेग बहादुर मेमोरियल हॉल में लंगर हुआ। इससे पहले प्रकाश पर्व को लेकर 30 दिसम्बर से प्रभातफेरी निकाली गयी। पांच जनवरी को इसका समापन हुआ। प्रभातफेरी

प्रात बेलवाटिका गुरुद्वारा साहिब से निकलकर विभिन्न मुहल्लों से होते हुए वापस गुरुद्वारा साहिब में समाप्त हुई। डालटनगंज की सिख संगत की कीर्तन मंडली ने भक्ति भाव से शबद गायन कर साथ संगत को गुरुवाणी से जोड़ा। मौके पर सतबीर सिंह राजा, रजिन्दर सिंह बंटी, गुरुवीर सिंह गोल्, बाँबी चावला, हरदीप सिंह काकू तथा सिख समाज के सैकड़ों लोग उपस्थित थे।

#### महिला विवि का दीक्षांत समारोह फरवरी में

JAMSHEDPUR : जमशेदपुर महिला विश्वविद्यालय का दूसरा दीक्षांत समारोह फरवरी में होगा। इसमें शामिल होने के लिए छात्राएं 25 जनवरी तक विवि की वेबसाइट jwu.ac.in पर जाकर ऑनलाइन आवेदन कर सकती हैं। विवि ने 1000 रुपये आवेदन शुल्क रखा है। इसमें पीजी व वोकेशनेल कोर्स सत्र 2022-24 की पासआउट छात्राओं को डिग्री प्रदान की जाएगी। वहीं टॉपर छात्राओं को गोल्ड मेडल दिया जाएगा। विवि की ओर से जल्द ही गोल्ड मेडल पाने वाली छात्राओं की सूची जारी की जाएगी। समारोह के सफल आयोजन के लिए महिला विवि द्वारा अलग-अलग कमेटी का गठन किया गया है। समारोह विवि के सिद्गोड़ा स्थित परिसर में होगा, जिस पर 10 लाख से अधिक राशि खर्च होगी। मालूम हो कि विवि की कुलपति डॉ. अजिता गुप्ता का कार्यकाल इसी साल जून में पूरा हो जाएगा। उससे तीन माह पहले उनका वित्तीय पावर वीज कर दिया जाएगा। ऐसे में विवि प्रशासन इससे पहले समारोह करा लेना चाह रहा है। समारोह में शामिल होने वाली सभी छात्राओं व अतिथियों को इस विवि उपलब्ध कराएगा।

## ‘पंचायत से पार्लियामेंट’ तक पहुंची मुखिया संगीता लकड़ा

LATEHAR : एकदिवसीय पंचायत से पार्लियामेंट-2.0 तक कार्यक्रम के तहत चंदवा प्रखंड स्थित चंदवा पश्चिमी ग्राम पंचायत की मुखिया संगीता लकड़ा कार्यक्रम में भाग लेने दिल्ली पहुंच चुकी हैं। इस कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य पंचायती राज संस्थाओं में निर्वाचित अनुसूचित जनजातियों की महिला प्रतिनिधियों को सशक्त बनाना तथा प्रभावी नेतृत्व को बढ़ावा देने के लिए उन्हें संवैधानिक प्रावधानों, संसदीय प्रक्रियाओं और शासन व्यवस्था के बारे में गहन जानकारी देना है। कार्यक्रम में लोकसभा के महासचिव उत्पल कुमार सिंह स्वागत भाषण देंगे। दूसरे सत्र में केन्द्रीय जनजातीय कार्य मंत्री जुएल ओराम संबोधित करेंगे। उल्लेखनीय है कि भगवान बिर्सा मुंडा की 150वीं जयंती के



मुखिया संगीता लकड़ा

उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित इस कार्यक्रम में कार्यशाला के साथ कई सत्र होंगे। प्रतिभागियों को नए संसद भवन, संविधान सदन, प्रधानमंत्री संग्रहालय और राष्ट्रपति भवन ले जाया जाएगा, ताकि उन्हें भारत की विधायी प्रक्रिया और लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं के कामकाज की गहन जानकारी प्राप्त हो। इस कार्यक्रम में 22 राज्यों व केंद्रशासित प्रदेशों की अनुसूचित जनजातियों की 502 निर्वाचित महिला प्रतिनिधि शामिल होंगी।

### भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो ने धूमधाम से मनाया 78वां स्थापना दिवस

## आर्थिक विकास के लिए गुणवत्ता का होना जरूरी : डॉ. संदीप

PHOTON NEWS JSR :

भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो ने सोमवार को गोलमुरी के होटल निवाता में अपना 78वां स्थापना दिवस मनाया। कार्यक्रम में मुख्य अतिथि एनएमएल के निदेशक डॉ. संदीप घोष चौधरी व विशिष्ट अतिथि सेल, बोकारो के जीएम रतन कुमार मलिक थे। स्वागत भाषण देते हुए बीआईएस के संयुक्त निदेशक कौशलेंद्र कुमार ने कहा कि मानक निर्माण में हितधारकों की भागीदारी बढ़ाने में मध्यम और बड़े उद्योगों की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने स्टैंडर्डाइजेशन सेल, वार्षिक मानकीकरण कार्यक्रम, शैक्षणिक संस्थानों के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन, उद्योगों की सक्रिय भागीदारी, मानक मंथन और यंग प्रोफेशनल्स कार्यक्रम जैसे प्रमुख पहलुओं पर चर्चा की। उन्होंने व्यवसायों के लिए बीआईएस प्रमाणन के महत्व को



गोलमुरी स्थित होटल में कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन करते अतिथि

● फोटोन न्यूज

भी रेखांकित किया। डॉ. संदीप घोष चौधरी ने गुणवत्ता और नवाचार सुनिश्चित करने में बीआईएस की भूमिका की सराहना की। उन्होंने कहा कि स्थापना दिवस न केवल बीआईएस की यात्रा को दर्शाता है, बल्कि यह पूरे देश की गुणवत्ता, विश्वास और नवाचार की यात्रा को भी दर्शाता है। बीआईएस देश की प्रगति के लिए

मानक स्थापित करने में अग्रणी रहा है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि बीआईएस प्रमाणन ने भारतीय उद्योगों को वैश्विक मान्यता दिलाने में मदद की है और यह सरकार की आत्मनिर्भर भारत की दृष्टि के साथ संरेखित है। बोकारो स्टील प्लांट (सेल) के जीएम रतन कुमार मलिक ने भारतीय मानकों को अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानकों के अनुरूप लाने में बीआईएस के

योगदान को रेखांकित किया। उन्होंने कहा कि बीआईएस का भारत को आर्थिक प्रगति पर गहरा प्रभाव है। इसने हमारे उत्पादों को अंतरराष्ट्रीय गुणवत्ता मानकों के बराबर ला दिया है, जिससे देश की गुणवत्ता और सुरक्षा के मामले में वृद्धि हुई है। एनआईटी जमशेदपुर के डीन ऑफ रिसर्च एंड कंसल्टेंसी प्रो. मुरुंजय कुमार सिन्हा ने बीआईएस के मानकीकरण प्रयासों के व्यापक दायरे पर प्रकाश डाला, जो वेडशीट से लेकर आभूषण तक फैला हुआ है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत को 2047 तक एक विकसित देश बनाने की दृष्टि को साकार करने के लिए हमें मिलकर काम करना होगा। सरकार ने एनआईटी और आईआईटी को सिर्फ नौकरी चाहने वाले नहीं, बल्कि नौकरी देने लायक तैयार करने का निर्देश दिया है। उन्होंने

यह भी बताया कि एनआईटी जमशेदपुर का इन्वेषेशन क्लब और इनक्यूबेटर उद्योग की समस्याओं के तकनीकी समाधान प्रदान करने की दिशा में काम कर रहा है। आदित्यपुर लघु उद्योग संघ (एसिया) के उपाध्यक्ष संतोक सिंह ने कहा कि आदित्यपुर औद्योगिक क्षेत्र की कई इकाइयां बीआईएस के साथ पंजीकृत हैं। बीआईएस द्वारा गुणवत्ता मानकों में निरंतर सुधार के कारण, हमारे उद्योग नया भारत बनाने में योगदान दे रहे हैं। इस दौरान आईडीटीआर जमशेदपुर के वरिष्ठ अधिवर्ती और मुख्य सतर्कता अधिकारी अंजन कुंडू, बीआईएस के संयुक्त निदेशक प्रभुनाथ यादव ने भी अपने विचार रखे। इस कार्यक्रम में झारखंड के बड़े, मध्यम, लघु और सूक्ष्म उद्योगों के 100 से अधिक प्रतिनिधियों ने भाग लिया।



पत्रकारों को जानकारी देते पीवीयूएनएल के पदाधिकारी

● फोटोन न्यूज

बताया कि कुल उत्पादन का 85 फीसदी बिजली झारखंड सरकार को देने का एग्रीमेंट बना हुआ है। शेष 15 प्रतिशत बिजली कहां जाएगी इसके लिए एक सरकार निर्णय लेगी। पीवीयूएनएल को संचालित करने के लिए लातेहार जिले में आवंटित बनाडीह कोल माईंस से कोयला आएगा। यह कोल माईंस 250 मेट्रिक टन क्षमता वाला कोल माईंस है। हालांकि इस कोल माईंस को शुरू होने में अभी ढेढ़ वर्ष लगेगे। उससे पहले सीसीएल और बीसीपीएल से एनटीवीसी को कोयला उपलब्ध होगा। जिसके लिए भी एग्रीमेंट पहले से ही बनाया

जा चुका है। वर्ष 2025 के अंत तक पहला पेज पूरा हो जाएगा और 2400 मेगावाट की बिजली का उत्पादन पतरातू से होने लगेगा। सीईओ आरके सिंह ने वर्ष 2024 में कंपनी के जरिये किए गए कार्यों और उपलब्धियों पर प्रकाश डाला। उनके साथ जीएम प्रोजेक्ट अनुपम मुखर्जी, जीएम ओ एंड एम देवेंद्र बोस, जीम मेंटेंसेस मनीष खेड़ापाल, एजीएम टीएस आलोक कुमार, सीएमओ संजय कुमार, सीएफओ नागेंद्र मिश्रा, डीजीएम मारिनंग जीनर्नेटु महापात्र, जियाउर रहमान एचओएचआर ने भी बैठक में भाग लिया।











BRIEF NEWS

वाहन से टकराई कार, नवादा जा रहे 2 डॉक्टरों की मौत

**PATNA** : बिहार की राजधानी पटना के बाढ़ में भीषण सड़क हादसा हुआ। इस दुर्घटना में दो डॉक्टर की मौत हो गई। घटना बख्तिवारपुर थाना के फोर लेन पर हुई। दोनों डॉक्टर कार से नवादा जा रहे थे। इसी दौरान रास्ते में यह हादसा हो गया। पुलिस ने शवों को कब्जे में लेकर पोस्टमार्टम के लिए बाढ़ अनुमंडल अस्पताल भेजा जहां से आवश्यक प्रक्रिया पूरी करने के बाद परिजनों को सौंप दिया गया। पुलिस की ओर से दुर्घटना की छानबीन की जा रही है। हादसे में मृत डॉक्टरों की पहचान कर ली गई है। मरने वालों में सीवान के रहने वाले डॉ अभिषेक श्रीवास्तव और मोतिहारी के निवासी डॉ नियाज अहमद शामिल हैं। जानकारी के मुताबिक उनका नवादा में नर्सिंग होम है। दोनों कार से रविवार की रात पटना से नवादा जा रहे थे। बख्तिवारपुर के रुचि होटल के पास घने कोहरे की वजह से खड़ी हाईवा में कार टकरा गई। से दोनों की मौके पर ही मौत हो गई। घटना बारह बजे रात्रि की बताई जा रही है।

सड़क दुर्घटना में युवक की गई जान

**PATNA** : दीप नगर थानाक्षेत्र अंतर्गत राणाघाट मोड़ के समीप सोमवार की सुबह सड़क दुर्घटना में एक युवक की मौत हो गयी। मृतक राना बिधा गांव निवासी सतेन्द्र कुमार है। बताया जाता है कि उक्त युवक बाईक से बाजार जा रहा था, जहां साइड लेने के क्रम में डिवाइडर से टकरा गया, जिससे वह गंभीर रूप से जखमी हो गया। घटना को देख राहगीरों ने उसे अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया, जहां ईलाज के दौरान उसकी मौत हो गयी। घटनाक्रम की जानकारी मृतक के परिजन व दीपनगर थानाध्यक्ष को दी गई। पुलिस घटनास्थल पर जाकर घटनाक्रम की जांचजा लेते हुए शव को बरामद कर पोस्टमार्टम के लिए अदर अस्पताल बिहारशरीफ भेज दिया है।

हत्याकांड के फरार सहित 5 अपराधियों को पुलिस ने पकड़ा

**NAWADA** : हत्याकांड में शामिल फरार पांच अपराधियों को हथियार के साथ सोमवार को पुलिस ने गिरफ्तार कर लिया है। एसपी अभिनव धीमन ने बताया कि हत्या कांड में सलिलप एक अभियुक्त सुधीर सिंह पिता योगेंद्र प्रसाद वर्मा ग्राम महानन्द चक थाना थथरी जिला नालंदा को नवादा पुलिस ने नालंदा से किया गिरफ्तार विगत एक माह पूर्व दहेज के लिए विवाहिता के साथ मारपीट कर की गई थी हत्या। हिसुआ थाना की पुलिस ने भी बड़ी कार्रवाई की है। नवादा पुलिस ने अपराधिक घटना को किया विफल।अवेध हथियार के साथ 01 अभियुक्त को नवादा पुलिस ने गिरफ्तार किया एवं 02 विधि विरुद्ध नाबालिग को किया निरुद्ध भी किया। गिरफ्तार अपराधी हथियार का भय दिखाकर राहगीरों से छिन्तई कर इलाके में दहशत पैदा कर दी थी। गिरफ्तार अभियुक्त रविन्द्र कुमार उर्फ राव,पिता प्रदीप मिस्त्री , ग्राम बडी मरिन्दद कवाड़ टोली ,थाना हिसुआ जिला नवादा नहीं इलाके में आतंक पैदा कर रखा था।

## प्रगति यात्रा के दौरान सीएम ने 344 विकास योजनाओं का किया उद्घाटन

# मुख्यमंत्री ने वैशाली जिला को दी 276 करोड़ 80 लाख की सौगात

AGENCY VAISHALI :

मुख्यमंत्री नीतीश कुमार ने आज प्रगति यात्रा के क्रम में वैशाली जिला को 276 करोड़ 80 लाख रुपये की सौगात दी। मुख्यमंत्री ने रिमोट के माध्यम से 344 विकासात्मक योजनाओं का उद्घाटन एवं शिलान्यास किया। इसके अंतर्गत 113 करोड़ 37 लाख रुपये की लागत से 118 योजनाओं का उद्घाटन तथा 163 करोड़ 43 लाख रुपये की लागत से 226 योजनाओं का शिलान्यास किया। मुख्यमंत्री के वैशाली दौरे में जिले के पटेहरी बेलसर ब्लॉक के नगरवा गांव और महनार शामिल थे। जहां उन्होंने जल जीवन हरियाली अभियान के तहत औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान (आईटीआई) और एक तालाब के सौंदर्यीकरण जैसी प्रमुख पहलों का शुभारंभ किया। मुख्यमंत्री ने नगरवा



विकास योजनाओं का उद्घाटन करते मुख्यमंत्री नीतीश कुमार व अन्य।

गांव एक तालाब के सौंदर्यीकरण का उद्घाटन किया और नगरवा के उत्कर्मित मध्य विद्यालय में शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, ग्रामीण विकास और महिला सशक्तीकरण के लिए विभागीय स्टॉल का निरीक्षण किया। मुख्यमंत्री ने महनार में एक आईटीआई का उद्घाटन किया और क्षेत्र में बुनियादी ढांचे और कौशल प्रशिक्षण को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से अतिरिक्त विकासात्मक पहलों

की शुरुआत की। मुख्यमंत्री ने हाजीपुर के बिहार सुधार प्रशासन संस्थान (बीआईसीए) में चल रही जिला स्तरीय परियोजनाओं की प्रगति की समीक्षा के लिए वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों के साथ एक उच्च स्तरीय बैठक भी की। अपने दौरे के दौरान, मुख्यमंत्री ने जीविका सदस्यों से मुलाकात की और ग्रामीण परिवर्तन में उनके प्रयासों की सराहना की। उन्होंने इस बात पर

## प्रशांत किशोर को मिली बिना शर्त जमानत, बेऊर जेल से निकले बाहर



AGENCY PATNA :

पटना के गांधी मैदान से प्रशांत किशोर को सोमवार की सुबह बिहार पुलिस ने अरेस्ट कर कोर्ट में पेश किया, जहां उन्हें सशर्त जमानत मिली थी। हालांकि, प्रशांत किशोर ने सशर्त जमानत लेने से इनकार कर दिया था। इसके बाद उन्हें पटना के बेऊर जेल भेज दिया गया। हालांकि अब उन्हें बिना शर्त जमानत मिल गई है। प्रशांत किशोर बेऊर जेल से रिहा हो गए हैं। आठ बजे रात जन सुराज नेता मीडिया से शेखपुरा हाउस में बात करेंगे। जन सुराज के कार्यकर्ताओं ने बताया कि

प्रेस वार्ता में प्रशांत किशोर राज्य के विकास, शिक्षा व्यवस्था की खामियों और छात्रों के भविष्य से जुड़े महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों पर अपनी राय रखेंगे। यह बातचीत उनके आंदोलन की आगामी रणनीति को स्पष्ट कर सकती है। प्रशांत किशोर आठ बजे रात मीडिया से शेखपुरा हाउस में बात करेंगे। प्रशांत किशोर के लेकर विभिन्न राजनीतिक दलों की प्रतिक्रियाएं भी सामने आई हैं। कुछ दल इसे छात्रों और जनता से जुड़ा मुद्दा मान रहे हैं, जबकि अन्य इसे राजनीतिक प्रचार का माध्यम बता रहे हैं।

## दुकान में चोरी करने पहुंचे बदमाशों ने की बमबाजी और गोलीबारी, दुकानदार घायल

AGENCY ARARIYA :

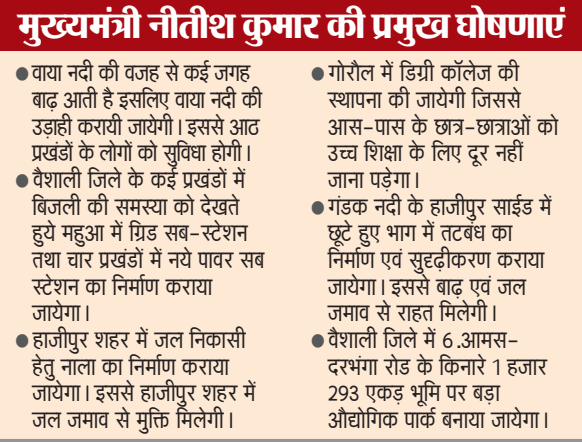
जिले के कुसाकांटा थाना क्षेत्र के बलचंदा वार्ड संख्या-15 में मध्य रात्रि एक बजे एक दर्जन से अधिक की संख्या में बदमाशों ने किराना कारोबारी महेंद्र प्रसाद केसरी के दुकान में पहुंचकर चोरी करने का प्रयास किया। किराना कारोबारी के जागने और शोरगुल पर बदमाशों ने बमबाजी और गोलीबारी भी की। जिसमें किराना कारोबारी महेंद्र प्रसाद केसरी को गोली लगने से वह घायल हो गया और उसे सदर अस्पताल में इलाज के लिए भर्ती किया गया है। सूचना के बाद रात को ही एसपी अंजनी कुमार,एसपी रामपुकार सिंह और कुसाकांटा थाना पुलिस मौके पर पहुंचकर मामले की जांच में जुट गई है।पुलिस ने दुकान और बाहर लगे सीसीटीवी कैमरा के फुटेज को भी



घटनास्थल पर जांच करती पुलिस।

खंगालना शुरू कर दिया है।घटना की तकनीकी जांच के लिए फॉरेंसिक साइटिफिक लेबोरेट्री (एफएसएल) और डॉग स्क्वाड के साथ डीआईयू टीम की सहायता ली जा रही है। घटना को लेकर प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार,रात्रि करीबन एक बजे करीबन 15 की संख्या में अज्ञात बदमाशों द्वारा दुकान का दरवाजा पीछे से कटर से काटकर दुकान में प्रवेश किए। बदमाशों द्वारा दुकान में चोरी की घटना को अंजाम

दिया जा रहा था।इसी दौरान किराना कारोबारी महेंद्र प्रसाद केसरी की नींद खुल गई और वे शोरगुल करने के साथ दुकान में चोरी का प्रतिरोध करने लगे।जिस पर बदमाशों द्वारा गोलीबारी एवं बमबाजी किया गया। जिसमें कारोबारी महेंद्र प्रसाद केसरी के पैर में गोली लगी है। जिन्हें इलाज हेतु पहले कुसाकांटा पीएचसी और फिर वहां से समुचित इलाज के लिए सदर अस्पताल भेजा गया। घटना की सूचना कुसाकांटा थाना को दी



### मुख्यमंत्री नीतीश कुमार की प्रमुख घोषणाएं

- वाया नदी की वजह से कई जगह बाढ़ आती है इसलिए वाया नदी की उखाड़ी करायी जायेगी। इससे आठ प्रखंड के लोगों को सुविधा होगी।
- वैशाली जिले के कई प्रखंडों में बिजली की समस्या को देखते हुये महुआ में ग्रिड सब-स्टेशन तथा वार प्रखंडों में नये पावर सब स्टेशन का निर्माण कराया जायेगा।
- हाजीपुर शहर में जल निकासी हेतु नाला का निर्माण कराया जायेगा। इससे हाजीपुर शहर में जल जमाव से मुक्ति मिलेगी।
- गोरौल में डिग्री कॉलेज की स्थापना की जायेगी जिससे आस-पास के छात्र-छात्राओं को उच्च शिक्षा के लिए दूर नहीं जाना पड़ेगा।
- गंडक नदी के हाजीपुर साईड में छूटे हुए भाग में तटबंध का निर्माण एवं सुदृढीकरण कराया जायेगा। इससे बाढ़ एवं जल जमाव से राहत मिलेगी।
- वैशाली जिले में 6.आमस-दरभंगा रोड के किनारे 1 हजार 293 एकड़ भूमि पर बड़ा औद्योगिक पार्क बनाया जायेगा।

प्रकाश डाला कि कैसे जीविका, एक स्व-सहायता समूह मॉडल के रूप में संकल्पित है, जो पूरे बिहार में महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने में सहायक रही है। राजनीतिक सवालों का जवाब देते हुए मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि मैं अपने काम पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता हूं और राजनीतिक

## सारण में ऑर्केस्ट्रा के नाम पर चल रहा था गंदा काम, पुलिस ने तीन को किया अरेस्ट

AGENCY SARAN :

बिहार के सारण जिले में एक गंभीर मामला सामने आया है, जिसमें ऑर्केस्ट्रा डांस के नाम पर नाबालिग लड़कियों के शोषण की घटना उजागर हुई है। पुलिस ने बनियापुर, कोपा और जलालपुर थाना क्षेत्रों में छापेमारी कर 12 लड़कियों को मुक्त करवा लिया। इस दौरान तीन मुख्य आरोपियों को गिरफ्तार भी किया गया है, जिनकी पहचान रितेश कुमार साह (बसंतपुर, सिवान), आनंद कुमार (कुशीनगर, उत्तर प्रदेश) और दीपक कुशवाहा (कोपा, छपरा) के रूप में हुई है। सोमवार को विशेष टीम ने सारण जिला के तीन अलग-अलग थाना क्षेत्रों में ऑर्केस्ट्रा आयोजनों पर छापा मारा, जो कि नाबालिग लड़कियों के शोषण का मुख्य केंद्र बन चुका था। पुलिस द्वारा मुक्त कराई गई लड़कियों को तत्काल मेडिकल



जांच के लिए सदर अस्पताल भेजा, जहां उनकी स्थिति की जांच और चाइल्ड लाइन छपरा की टीम ने भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई और पुलिस का सहयोग किया। एसपी कुमार आशीष ने बताया कि यह छापेमारी राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग के पत्र के आधार पर की गई थी। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि नाबालिग लड़कियों के शोषण के खिलाफ यह अभियान लगातार जारी रहेगा।

## वैशाली सांसद वीणा देवी को जान मारने की धमकी

AGENCY MUZAFFARPUR :

वैशाली सांसद वीणा देवी को मोबाइल पर जान से मारने की धमकी दी गई है। फोन पर उन्हें गोली मारकर हत्या करने की धमकी दी गई है। इस संबंध में सांसद ने सदर थाने में एफआईआर दर्ज कराया है। पुलिस मामले की जांच कर रही है। पुलिस को दिए गए आवेदन में कहा गया है कि रविवार की दोपहर 12:36 बजे उनके मोबाइल पर 5559019720 से कोई बार कॉल आया। जब उन्होंने कॉल रिसीव किया तो उक्त व्यक्ति ने गाली-गलौज कर गोली मारकर हत्या करने की धमकी दी। घटना को लेकर वैशाली सांसद ने सदर थानाध्यक्ष को आवेदन देकर जान-माल की सुरक्षा के लिए त्वरित कार्रवाई करने और धमकी देने वाले व्यक्ति को चिह्नित कर कानूनी कार्रवाई का आग्रह किया है। सदर थानाध्यक्ष अस्मित कुमार ने बताया कि धमकी देने में प्रयोग किए गए मोबाइल का डिटेल निकालकर कार्रवाई की जा रही है। बता दें कि वैशाली सांसद लोजपा (रा।) पार्टी से सांसद हैं। पिछले साल लोकसभा



सांसद वीणा देवी।

चुनाव के दौरान मतदान के दिन भी उनपर हमला हुआ था। इसकी शिकायत उन्होंने दर्ज कराई थी। पिछले साल ही उनके बड़े पुत्र का सड़क हादसे में निधन हो गया था। इस मामले में भी सांसद ने साजिश की आशंका जताई थी। सांसद वीणा देवी ही नहीं उनके परिवार में पति एमएलसी दिनेश प्रसाद सिंह और उद्योगपति पुत्री कोमल सिंह को भी अज्ञात नंबर से कॉल कर धमकी दी जा चुकी है। दिनेश प्रसाद सिंह और कोमल सिंह को धमकी की अलग-अलग एफआईआर सदर थाने में दर्ज कराई गई थी। हालांकि, अब तक पुलिस दिनेश प्रसाद सिंह और कोमल सिंह को धमकी मामलों में कोई सुराग नहीं ढूँढ पाई है।

## श्री कृष्ण धाम ट्रस्ट कराएगा 51 कन्याओं का सामूहिक विवाह

**CHAMPARAN** : श्री कृष्ण धाम ट्रस्ट के सदस्यों की बैठक सोमवार को नगर पार्श्व भरत यादव की अध्यक्षता में हुई। बैठक में तुरकौलिया में होने वाली 51 सामूहिक कन्याओं के विवाह पर चर्चा हुई,जिसके बाद समिति का गठन हुआ, जिसमें सर्वसम्मति से समाजसेवी सह जयसिंहपुर के पैक्स अध्यक्ष प्रतिनिधि अरुण यादव को अध्यक्ष, सुरेंद्र साह को सचिव,सुजीत सहनी को कोषाध्यक्ष, प्रवक्ता जीतेंद्र सहनी, उपाध्यक्ष श्याम किशोर शर्मा, सह सचिव डा पीएन यादव, संरक्षक तुरकौलिया पूर्वी के मुखिया विनय कुमार, वार्ड पार्श्व भरत यादव, पैक्स अध्यक्ष जयप्रकाश रस्तोगी व पूर्व जिला परिषद सदस्य जयप्रकाश यादव बने। अरुण यादव ने बताया कि यह तुरकौलिया में एक ऐतिहासिक कार्यक्रम होगा। वही सामूहिक विवाह को लेकर लोगों में काफी खुशियां देखी जा रही है।

## गोपाल मंडल ने बीजेपी विधायक पर दिया आपत्तिजनक बयान

AGENCY PATNA :

गोपालपुर विधानसभा क्षेत्र के जेडीयू विधायक गोपाल मंडल ने भाजपा विधायक इंजीनियर शैलेंद्र पर आपत्तिजनक शब्दों का इस्तेमाल किया है। भाजपा विधायक के मुस्लिम समुदाय पर दिए गए बयान को लेकर गोपाल मंडल ने उनकी सोच और नीयत पर सवाल उठाए। गोपाल मंडल ने कहा, इंजीनियर शैलेंद्र दंगा-फसाद वाली बातें करते हैं। उन्हें ज्ञान की कमी है। वह खुद को इंजीनियर कहते हैं, लेकिन उनकी मानसिकता संकीर्ण है। वह हम जैसे पढ़े-लिखे लोगों को मूर्ख कहने का साहस करते हैं। भाजपा विधायक शैलेंद्र ने हाल ही में मुस्लिम समुदाय की जनसंख्या वृद्धि को लेकर आपत्तिजनक बयान दिया था। इस पर प्रतिक्रिया देते हुए गोपाल मंडल ने कहा, मुस्लिम ज्यादा बच्चे पैदा करते हैं, इससे शैलेंद्र को क्या समस्या है?



जदयू विधायक गोपाल मंडल।

हिंदुओं को बच्चे पैदा करने से किसने रोका है? समाज में घृणा और नफरत फैलाने का कोई औचित्य नहीं है। गोपाल मंडल ने आगे कहा कि मुख्यमंत्री नीतीश कुमार की सरकार ने हमेशा समाज में सौहार्द बनाए रखने का काम किया है। उन्होंने कहा, हमारे मुख्यमंत्री नहीं चाहते कि बिहार में दंगा-फसाद हो। भाजपा विधायक शैलेंद्र की इस तरह की बयानबाजी केवल वोटर बैक की राजनीति का हिस्सा है।

## शीतलहर की चपेट में पूरा बिहार, कई दिनों से कहीं-कहीं नहीं निकल रही धूप

AGENCY PATNA :

राजधानी पटना सहित पूरा बिहार कड़ाके की ठंड से जूझ रहा है। ठंड का आलम ऐसा है कि राजधानी पटना में तो बमुश्किल ही सूर्यदिव के दर्शन हो रहे हैं। सुबह लंबे वक्त तक रहने वाला कोहरा और दिनभर चलने वाली शीतलहर कंकरंपी छुटा रही है। कोहरे की वजह से दर्जनों ट्रेंनें और बड़ी संख्या में फ्लाईअस जड़ानों पर भी असर पड़ रहा है। पहाड़ों पर भी जारी ठंड का सितम बिहार लोगों को ठिठुरने पर मजबूर कर रहा है। पूरे प्रदेश में कमेबेश कोल्ड-डे की स्थिति बनी हुई है। उत्तर-पश्चिम भारत में पश्चिमी विक्षोभ का प्रभाव फिर से बढ़ रहा है, जिससे 10 जनवरी से सर्दी का एक नया दौर शुरू हो सकता है। इस दौरान शीत दिवस के साथ शीतलहर की भी आशंका



है। हालांकि कृषि वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि यह ठंड गेहूं की फसल के लिए लाभदायक साबित हो सकती है। सुबह के समय माहौल ऐसा था जैसे अर्धोपचित कफरू लगा हो। सड़कों पर केवल बेहद जरूरी काम वाले लोग ही नजर आए। मौसम विभाग के अनुसार, अगले दो दिनों तक भी इसी तरह का मौसम बने रहने की संभावना है। मंगलवार को पटना में अति घना कोहरा रहेगा, जबकि गया, भागलपुर और पूर्णिया में घना कोहरा छाया

रहेगा। मौसम विभाग ने अगले 24 घंटों में रात का तापमान 10 से 14 डिग्री सेल्सियस के बीच रहने का अनुमान लगाया है। 7 और 8 जनवरी 2025 को राज्य के अधिकतर हिस्सों में मध्यम से तेज पछुआ हवा चलने की संभावना है। इससे ठंड और बढ़ने की आशंका है। दक्षिण-मध्य और दक्षिण-पूर्वी बिहार के जिलों जैसे पटना, नालंदा, नवादा, शेखपुरा, गया, लखीसराय, खगड़िया, बेगूसराय, मुंगेर और भागलपुर में मध्यम से घना कोहरा छाए रहने का प्र्वानुमान है। पिछले 24 घंटों में बक्सर जिले के चक्की प्रखंड में न्यूनतम तापमान 7.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया, जबकि किशनगंज और पोतिया प्रखंड में अधिकतम तापमान 28.0 डिग्री सेल्सियस रहा।

**निर्णय :** आचार्य किशोर कुणाल के निधन के बाद खाली हो गया था पद, सचिव की नियुक्ति तक संभालेंगे काम

## महावीर मंदिर ट्रस्ट ने 2 लोगों को दी संचालन की जिम्मेदारी

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महावीर मंदिर न्यास समिति के सदस्यों की आज बैठक बुलाई गई। 29 दिसंबर को महावीर मंदिर न्यास समिति के सचिव आचार्य किशोर कुणाल का निधन हो गया था। उनके निधन के बाद से ही इस बात की चर्चा थी कि अब इस ट्रस्ट का सचिव कौन होगा? आज की बैठक में आचार्य किशोर कुणाल के निधन को लेकर शोक प्रस्ताव पारित किया गया। जल्द ही महावीर मंदिर ट्रस्ट की अगली बैठक होगी जिसमें सचिव के नाम तय किए जाएंगे। नालंदा ओपन यूनिवर्सिटी के पूर्व वाइस चांसलर प्रोफेसर शिवाकांत झा से डीटीवी भारत में बातचीत की, उन्होंने जानकारी दी कि महावीर मंदिर न्यास समिति के सदस्यों की बैठक में यह निर्णय लिया गया कि इस ट्रस्ट के तत्काल संचालन की जिम्मेवारी ट्रस्ट के सदस्य पूर्व



मुख्य सचिव बीएस दुबे एवं लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल ए के चौधरी को देने पर सहमति बनी है। यह लोग तब तक ट्रस्ट के संचालन की जिम्मेदारी संभालेंगे जब तक ट्रस्ट के सचिव पद पर किसी की नियुक्ति नहीं होती है। प्रो शिवाकांत झा ने बताया कि आचार्य किशोर कुणाल के निधन को लेकर महावीर मंदिर ट्रस्ट के सदस्यों ने शोक प्रस्ताव पारित किया। शोक प्रस्ताव के

माध्यम से आचार्य किशोर कुणाल के द्वारा महावीर मंदिर ट्रस्ट में दिए गए योगदान को याद किया गया। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि आचार्य किशोर कुणाल के श्राद्धकर्म के बाद फिर से ट्रस्ट के सदस्यों की बैठक बुलाई जाएगी, जिसमें स्वर्गीय किशोर कुणाल के पुत्र सायन कुणाल या उनकी पत्नी अनीता कुणाल को इस समिति में शामिल किए जाने पर भी



### आचार्य किशोर कुणाल का योगदान

महावीर मंदिर के निर्माण काल से लेकर अपने जीवन के अंतिम समय तक आचार्य किशोर कुणाल महावीर मंदिर न्यास समिति से जुड़े रहे। महावीर मंदिर न्यास समिति के सचिव रहते हुए उन्होंने इस ट्रस्ट के माध्यम से कई संस्थाओं की शुरुआत की। इस वैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट के तहत 9 अस्पतालों का संचालन किया जाता है। आचार्य किशोर कुणाल ने महावीर आरोग्य संस्थान, महावीर कैसर संस्थान, महावीर वात्सल्य अस्पताल, महावीर नेत्रालय, महावीर वरिष्ठ नागरिक अस्पताल, विराट रामायण मंदिर, बच्चों के लिए महावीर बाल कैसर संस्थान की शुरुआत की। इसके अलावा, महावीर मंदिर न्यास समिति द्वारा अयोध्या के राम मंदिर परिसर में राम रसोई एवं सीतामढ़ी स्थित माता जानकी मंदिर में सीता रसोई भी चलाई जाती है।

चर्चा हो सकती है। हालांकि, किसे कमेटी में रखना है या नहीं रखना है, यह कमेटी की बैठक में ही तय होगा। महावीर मंदिर न्यास समिति में 11 सदस्यों की कमेटी होती है। आचार्य किशोर कुणाल के निधन से पहले कमेटी में 10 सदस्य थे, लेकिन अब इस कमेटी में 9 सदस्य हैं। मौजूद कमेटी में जस्टिस पीएन अग्रवाल अध्यक्ष हैं। कमेटी के अन्य सदस्य हैं

जस्टिस एसएन झा, पूर्व मुख्य सचिव बीएस दुबे, जस्टिस राजेंद्र प्रसाद, पूर्व आईएएस अधिकारी एके सिंह, लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल एके चौधरी, पूर्व लॉ सेक्रेटरी वासुदेव राम, बोधगया बुद्धिस्ट मंदिर की सेक्रेटरी महाश्वेता महारथी, कामेश्वर सिंह संस्कृत विश्वविद्यालय के रियरवर्ड प्रोफेसर और नालंदा ओपन यूनिवर्सिटी के वाइस चांसलर शिवाकांत झा।







## Researchers unveil new tool that reveals gene behaviour in bacteria



LOS ANGELES [US]: Bacterial infections are responsible for millions of deaths each year, with the global threat made severe by the increasing resistance of microbes to antibiotic treatments.

This is due, in part, to bacteria's capacity to switch genes on and off when they detect environmental changes, including the presence of drugs.

Such switching is accomplished through transcription, which converts the DNA in genes into its chemical cousin in mRNA, which guides the building of proteins that make up the microbe's structure.

Understanding how mRNA production is regulated for each bacterial gene is central to efforts to counter resistance, but approaches used to study this regulation to date have been laborious. According to a new study, scientists revealed a trick that may speed such efforts.

According to the study authors, organisms from bacteria to humans grow as their cells multiply by dividing, with each cell becoming two. Before cells divide, they must copy their DNA such that each of the two daughter cells has a copy. To do so, a molecular machine called DNA polymerase ticks down the DNA chain, reading and making a copy of each gene one by one.

Publishing online Jan. 24 in the journal Nature, the study adds to explanations of how gene expression throughout the genome is shaped by DNA replication during bacterial growth.

Specifically, the research team found that when DNA polymerase arrives at any specific gene, it disrupts the transcription in a way that reveals the state of that gene's regulatory status.

"Our study results show that the constant replication of genes during the cell cycle as the bacterial cells reproduce and grow can be exploited to learn about many aspects of how genes are regulated," said study lead investigator Andrew Pountain, PhD, a postdoctoral research fellow at NYU Langone Health and its Institute for Systems Genetics.

"We like the analogy of the electrocardiogram in medicine," said Itai Yanai, the senior investigator of the study and professor at NYU Langone's Institute for Systems Genetics.

By monitoring patterns of electrical activity in the heart, the ECG reveals a series of waves that provide a detailed, graphical view of a patient's cardiac health. Similarly, waves of changes in the abundance of mRNA in response to a gene's replication produce a signature on a graph, which the authors termed the transcription-replication interaction profile, or TRIP.

The researchers showed how specific waves can be linked to certain features. For example, whether a gene is under a specific form of control, known as repression, where a protein blocks that gene's mRNA from being made. These repressed genes were found to have characteristic, spiked TRIP patterns.

"Our aim is to understand how gene regulation shapes these TRIPs, with a goal of using them to diagnose gene regulation across the entire set of thousands of genes in the bacterium," added Yanai.

"We hope that our further investigations of gene expression profiles will offer insight into how groups of genes respond to disruptions or changes in their environment."

# High blood pressure may increase risk of strokes, finds study

MICHIGAN [US] : A Michigan Medicine study found that high systolic blood pressure (the top number on the blood pressure reading and how hard the heart pumps blood to the arteries) increases the risk of the two most common types of strokes over time.

The study looked at the average systolic blood pressure years before the first stroke in over 40,000 adults aged 18 and older who had no history of stroke.

Researchers covered three types of stroke: ischemic, a clot that cuts blood supply to the brain and the cause of over 85 per cent of all strokes; intracerebral hemorrhage, a bleed within the brain; and subarachnoid hemorrhage, bleeding between the brain and the tissues that cover it. They found that having a mean systolic blood pressure that is 10-mm Hg higher than average was associated with a 20 per cent higher risk of overall stroke and ischemic stroke, as well as a 31% greater risk of intracerebral hemorrhage.

"Our results suggest that early diagnosis and sustained control of high blood pressure over the lifespan are critical to preventing



stroke, ischemic stroke and intracerebral hemorrhage, especially in Black and Hispanic patients who are more likely to have uncontrolled hypertension than white patients," said senior author Deborah A. Levine, M.D., M.P.H., professor of internal medicine and neurology at University of Michigan Medical School.

Black patients had a 20 per cent higher risk of ischemic stroke and a 67 per cent higher risk of intracerebral hemorrhage than white patients. Hispanic patients had a 281% higher risk of sub-

arachnoid hemorrhage, but not any other stroke type, compared to white patients. While Black and Hispanic patients had a higher risk of stroke, researchers found little evidence to suggest that race and ethnicity affected the association between cumulative systolic blood pressure and the type of stroke that affected any patient.

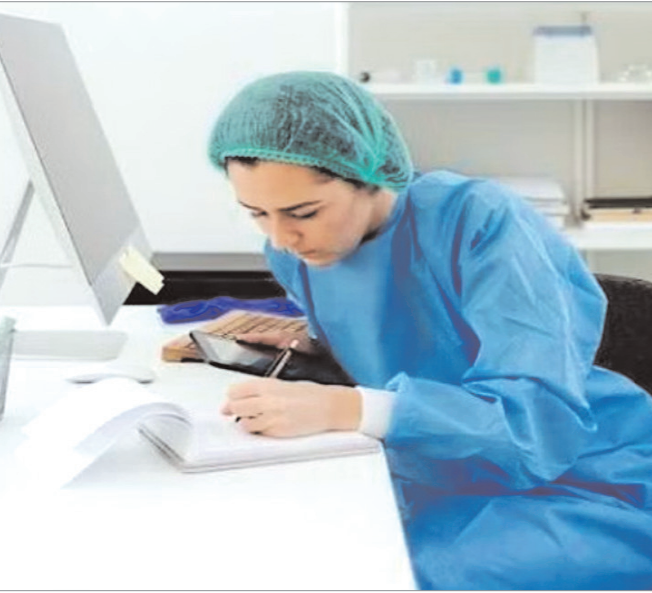
"Examining racial inequities advances our understanding of the social, economic and political structures that affect health behaviors and risk for stroke

among racial and ethnic minority groups," said Kimson E. Johnson, Ph.D., M.A., M.S.W., first author and postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Michigan. While systolic blood pressure is a modifiable target for preventing stroke and other cardiovascular diseases, a national study conducted in 2020 found that blood pressure control in the United States worsened from 2013 to 2018, especially for Black and Hispanic adults. Self-monitoring of blood pressure improves blood pressure diagnosis and control and is accurate and cost-effective, but it remains an underused tool, Levine says.

"Two major barriers to self-monitoring of blood pressure are lack of patient education and insurance not covering the home blood pressure monitors, which cost \$50 or more," she said.

"Health care systems and providers must educate and urge their patients to do home blood pressure monitoring, and insurers must pay for home blood pressure monitors to optimize people's blood pressure and reduce their chances of having a stroke."

# Study assesses therapeutic strategies for severe obesity in adolescents



Illinois [US] : According to a study, adolescents with severe obesity who got both meal-replacement therapy and financial incentives had a higher reduction in body mass index compared to those who just received meal-replacement therapy. The finding was published in JAMA Pediatrics. Justin Ryder, PhD, Vice Chair of Research for the Department of Surgery at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago and Associate Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, was a co-author of the study.

Severe obesity currently affects about one in five children and adolescents in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and is defined as having a body mass index, or BMI, either at or above the 95th percentile for age and sex. The condition is associated with an increased risk of adult obesity, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes and other conditions.

Previous research has found that meal replacement therapy (MRT), rather than traditional lifestyle modifications, is more effective in helping reduce BMI in adolescents with severe obesity. In the current study, the investigators sought to determine if MRT paired with financial incentives to adolescents with severe obesity would increase the efficacy of MRT and lead to a greater reduction in BMI, when compared to MRT alone. "There's literature for adults that supports that tying in financial incentives to weight loss or physical activity programs increases adherence,

and so we wanted to see whether or not adding financial incentives to a behavioural/nutrition weight loss program using meal replacement therapy would increase adherence and through adherence, increase the efficacy of the treatment," Dr Ryder said. Of the 126 adolescents enrolled in the study, 63 participants received MRT plus financial incentives and 63 participants received only MRT for one year. MRT included pre-portioned meals totalling 1,200 calories per day, and financial incentives were provided based on reduction in body weight from baseline. After 52 weeks, the MRT plus financial incentives group had a greater BMI reduction (a reduction of 6 percentage points) and a greater reduction in total body fat mass (a loss of 4.8 kilograms) compared to those who only received MRT therapy.

"Using a cost-effectiveness analysis, we looked at mean fat mass lost between the two treatments and found that despite providing the additional meal replacements per pound lost, it was cost-effective to do so," Dr Ryder added. Additional work is also needed to develop interventions that extend beyond one year, according to the authors.

"While financial incentives plus MRT appears to be a longer-term strategy than MRT alone, treatment withdrawal will likely result in BMI increase. As such, research is needed to identify strategies that are scalable and feasible in the long term given the chronic nature of obesity," the authors wrote.

# Research explores secrets of lipid synthesis inside cells

LOS ANGELES [US] : South Korean researchers at the IBS Center for Molecular Spectroscopy and Dynamics (IBS CMSD) have made a useful discovery concerning cellular microscopy.

The team has successfully developed Two-Color Infrared Photothermal Microscopy (2C-IPM), a unique method for studying neutral lipids within lipid droplets of living cells.

This new microscopy can be combined with isotope labelling, which allows thorough monitoring of neutral lipid synthesis within individual lipid droplets.

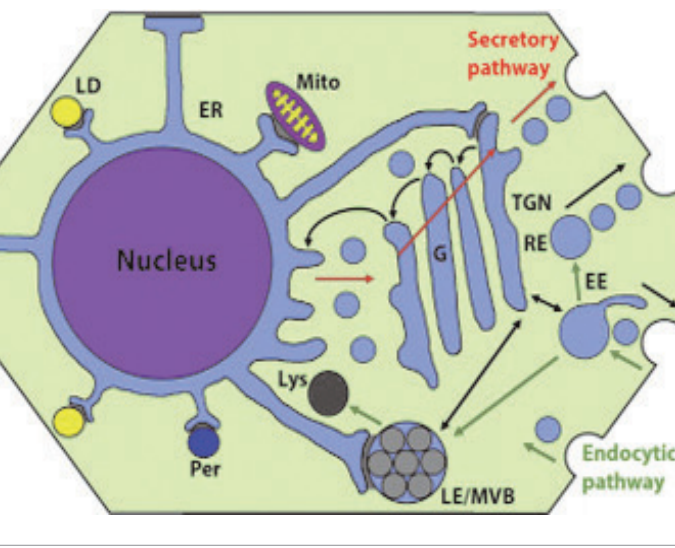
Lipid droplets (LDs) are structures made up of pockets of neutral lipids (triglycerides) enclosed in a monolayer of phospholipids.

They have long been regarded as uninteresting organelles whose sole function is to store excess energy in the form of neutral lipids.

However, recent studies indicate these droplets actually are dynamic players in various cellular metabolic activities.

It was found they are actively involved in regulating lipid toxicity and cell communication, as well as their correlation with prevalent diseases like obesity and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.

Understanding the functions of LDs is thus imperative for the



diagnosis and treatment of these conditions.

Researchers have traditionally stained the cells with lipophilic dyes and employed fluorescence microscopy to study LDs within cells. However, this method has several significant limitations. First is photobleaching of the dyes, which restricts the observation duration of the LDs to very short time windows. Another limitation is the fluorescent dyes themselves. The currently used fluorescent dyes simply target the hydrophobic environment within LDs, utilizing unspecified binding mechanisms. As such, they are

incapable of accurately analyzing the composition and quantity of neutral lipids.

Unlike previous methods that relied on fluorescent microscopy, the new 2C-IPM technology uses an infrared (IR) spectroscopic method and does not require the use of fluorescent dyes. The new method monitors neutral lipids within LDs directly by detecting changes in IR absorbance. Importantly, this advantage allows researchers to observe the synthesis of neutral lipids within individual LDs in living cells over a long period. Employing the newly developed method, the research

# Hypertension guidelines do not include potassium-enriched salt: Study

NEW SOUTH WALES [AUSTRALIA] : An international panel of experts published a suggestion in the scientific journal Hypertension published by the American Heart Association, calling for the inclusion of low-sodium potassium-enriched salt in hypertension therapy guidelines.

High levels of sodium intake and low levels of potassium intake are widespread, and both are linked to high blood pressure (hypertension) and a greater risk of stroke, heart disease and premature death. Using a salt substitute where part of the sodium chloride is replaced with potassium chloride addresses both problems at once.

Professor Alta Schutte at The George Institute for Global Health and UNSW Sydney said that despite data from randomised controlled trials demonstrating the health benefits of potassium-enriched, sodium-reduced salt substitutes, they are rarely used.

"We found current clinical guidelines offer incomplete and inconsistent recommendations about the use of these salt substitutes," she said.

"Given the wealth of evidence available, we feel it's time to include salt substitutes in treatment guidelines to help address spiralling rates of uncontrolled high blood pressure around the world and reduce preventable deaths."

Potassium-enriched salt can be used as a direct replacement for regular salt (sodium chloride) when seasoning, preserving or manufacturing foods. Importantly, while other salt reduction strategies make foods taste less salty, switching to potassium-enriched salt is

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undetectable by most people. "Unwanted taste effects are the main reason why efforts to reduce salt intake have failed for more than two decades. The willingness of patients to keep using potassium-enriched salt removes that barrier, which is why it can be a game-changer," Prof Schutte added. A global collaboration of researchers from the US, Australia, Japan, South Africa and India reviewed 32 separate hypertension treatment guidelines - two from global organisations, five from regional organisations and 25 from country organisations - published between 1 January 2013 and 21 June 2023. They found all guidelines referred to sodium reduction, with most recommending reducing salt intake.



Many also recommended increasing dietary potassium intake, but only two - the Chinese and European guidelines - made a specific recommendation for using potassium-enriched salt.

Dr Tom Frieden, President and CEO of Resolve to Save Lives, a global public health organisation focused on preventing 100 million deaths from cardiovascular disease, said that the number of people living with hypertension had doubled in the past 30 years to about 1.3 billion. "High blood pressure kills more than ten million people every year - almost 20 people every minute. Twenty percent of these deaths can be linked to a single culprit: eating too much salt," he said. "Based on the evidence, there is little

doubt that most patients with hypertension and their families should reduce their overall salt intake and, when choosing to consume salt, should switch from regular salt to potassium-enriched salt. This will help reduce blood pressure and protect against serious complications such as stroke and premature death."

Dr Frieden emphasized the shift required to our food environment. "As a society, we must prioritize availability and accessibility of low-sodium, potassium-enriched salts - at home, in restaurants, and in grocery stores. These products should not be marketed or priced as a luxury. Low-sodium, potassium-enriched salt can become the new default." Another barrier to uptake has

been concerns about causing elevated levels of potassium in the blood (hyperkalaemia) in people with advanced kidney disease.

Professor Bruce Neal, Executive Director at The George Institute Australia and Professor of Clinical Epidemiology at Imperial College London, said it is clear that patients with advanced kidney disease should not use potassium-enriched salts, but this applies to a very small proportion of the population, and these patients are already recommended to avoid salt intake.

"No issues with serious harm from hyperkalaemia were recorded in any of the trials to date, though all were done in clinical settings. Our recommendation for use in hypertension is based on patients being managed by a healthcare worker. Healthcare workers know not to recommend potassium-enriched salt in the presence of kidney disease and risk for these patients can be avoided."

The authors argued that given potassium-enriched salt is one of the few dietary interventions patients comply with long-term, it is logical to at least consider the use of potassium-enriched salt for all those with hypertension.

"We strongly encourage clinical guideline bodies to review their recommendations about the use of potassium-enriched salt substitutes at the earliest opportunity - if the world switched from using regular salt to potassium-enriched it would prevent millions of strokes and heart attacks every year at very low cost," added Prof Schutte.



# Himanta Sarma exhorts industrialists not to hire illegal Bangladeshi migrants as cheap labour

**DISPUR**

Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday exhorted industrialists not to hire illegal Bangladeshi migrants in their units for "cheap labour". Addressing a press conference here after meeting slew of industrial leaders from corporate houses including the Tatas, Adani Group and Mahindras, Sarma said there is a need to "strike at the roots" of the illegal migration from Bangladesh problem by not hiring such migrants. He explained that there are middlemen hired by the industry to get cheap labour from Bangladesh, and the industry has to decide not to employ such labour. When asked if the issue featured during his



discussions with industry captains over the weekend, Sarma said there is no need to "reemphasise" an issue on which Assam has been fighting since 1979. The state is looking at investment commitments of Rs 1 lakh crore from the central government and entities allied with it at the upcoming "Advantage Assam 2.0" investment summit to be held in Guwahati in February. Attracting investments in sectors such as tourism, semiconductors and defence is the other focus area of the summit to be held on February 25-26. He said the Tata group's mega Rs 27,000-crore

investment for a semiconductor assembly plant is on schedule, and the first phase will be inaugurated in either November or December this year. Apart from that, the Tatas have also evinced interest to set up a 500-MW solar capacity in the state, he said, adding that an industrial policy is in the works where fallow land being held by tea estates can be converted to put solar power capacity. Sarma said given the state's proximity to the northeastern theatre which sees maximum deployment of Army, the state is also looking to attract investments into defence production and repair. This aspect has featured during his interactions with the Adani group and Mahindras, Sarma added.

# CCI probe order on Amazon, Flipkart: Supreme Court transfers all pending cases to Karnataka high court

**NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court on Monday transferred to Karnataka High Court petitions of Amazon and Flipkart, challenging a Competition Commission of India order for a probe into the e-commerce giants for alleged malpractices. A bench of Justice Abhay S Oka and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan said if pleadings in some of the transferred petitions were not completed, the judge seized of the matter would grant reasonable time to complete the pleadings. "It will be appropriate if all the petitions which are the subject matter of this transfer petition are transferred for hearing to the High Court of Karnataka," the bench said. During the hearing,



Attorney General R Venkataramani informed the apex court that, after filing of the present petition by fair trade regulator the Competition Commission of India (CCI), five pleas had been filed in different high courts. He top court directed that these petitions be transferred to the High Court of Karnataka. "If similar petitions are hereafter instituted in any other high court, the same shall be also covered by this order," the bench said. The apex court had earlier issued a notice on the plea filed by the CCI, which sought the transfer of the petitions filed by the e-commerce giants from the high courts to the top court or Delhi High Court. In its plea before the top court, the CCI sought directions to transfer either to the Supreme Court or Delhi High Court the cases pending before the high courts of Allahabad, Madras, Telangana, Punjab and Haryana, Delhi, and Karnataka.

# Sensex plunges 1,258 points to settle at 77,964; Nifty tumbles 388 points to 23,616

**MUMBAI**

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty crashed 1.6 per cent on Monday due to an across-the-board selloff, as concerns over third-quarter earnings growth and the continued flight of foreign capital sapped risk appetite. Besides, traders said that the new HMP virus scare, depreciating rupee and weak trend in Asian markets further weighed on sentiment. Extending losses, the 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex tanked 1,258.12 points or 1.59 per cent to close below the 78,000 level at 77,964.99. During the day, it plunged 1,441.49 points or 1.81 per cent to 77,781.62. The NSE Nifty slumped 388.70 points or 1.62 per cent to 23,616.05. From



the 30-share blue-chip pack, Tata Steel, NTPC, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IndusInd Bank, Power Grid, Zomato, Adani Ports, Asian Paints, Mahindra & Mahindra and Reliance Industries were among the biggest laggards. "The Indian equity markets are witnessing a sharp decline today, with both Nifty and Bank Nifty

after the recent counter-trend pullback rally," Santosh Meena, Head of Research, Swastika Investmart, said. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 4,227.25 crore on Friday after a day's breather, according to exchange data. In Asian markets, Seoul settled higher while Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended lower. European markets were trading on a mixed note. US markets ended in positive territory on Friday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude dipped 0.25 per cent to USD 76.32 a barrel. The BSE benchmark tumbled 720.60 points or 0.90 per cent to close at 79,223.11 on Friday. The Nifty tanked 183.90 points or 0.76 per cent to 24,004.75

# NCLAT to hear Meta plea against fair trade regulator CCI's penalty on January 16

**NEW DELHI**

Meta Platforms Inc on Monday moved corporate appellate tribunal NCLAT against the order passed by fair trade regulator CCI, which imposed a penalty of Rs 213.14 crore for abuse of its dominant position. The petition was mentioned before a National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) bench which also comprised its Chairperson Justice Ashok Bhushan. Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Mukul Rohatgi appearing for Meta requested for an urgent hearing in the matter considering the importance and nature of the matter. A three-member bench, which also consisted of technical members Barun Mitra and Arun Baroka, directed listing



the petition on January 16 for hearing. On November 18, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) had imposed a penalty of Rs 213.14 crore on social media major Meta for unfair business ways with respect to WhatsApp privacy policy update done in 2021. Besides, the competition watchdog has directed Meta to cease and desist from anti-com-

petitive practices. Meta and WhatsApp have also been asked to implement certain behavioural remedies within a defined timeline to address the anti-competition issues, according to a CCI order. The regulator has called for implementing various remedial measures, including barring WhatsApp from sharing data collected on its platform with other Meta

companies or Meta company products for advertising purposes for five years. Among other directions, CCI has said that sharing of user data collected on WhatsApp with other Meta companies or Meta company products for purposes other than for providing WhatsApp services shall not be made a condition for users to access WhatsApp service in India.

# ArcelorMittal is closing this business, 3500 jobs are at risk

**SOUTH AFRICA**

The giant steel company ArcelorMittal has decided to close one of its major businesses in South Africa. The company has announced the closure of the business making long-steel products under its unit ArcelorMittal South Africa Limited. This decision may affect the jobs of about 3,500 people. ArcelorMittal said in a statement that high logistics and energy costs, as well as government policy intervention, have made it difficult for them to work here. The move will affect the Newcastle and Vereeniging Works as well as the rail and structure unit Amras, although coke production will continue in Newcastle. Cheap imports from China The company said that



South Africa's steel industry is facing the biggest challenge since the 2008 financial crisis. It also said that the decline in global and local steel markets, high expenses and increase in low-cost imports have harmed the business. Cheap imports, especially from China, have a big role in this. The company's CEO Kobus Verster said that we are disappointed that all our efforts of last year have not resulted in a permanent solution. This news is no less than a blow to South Africa's coalition government which is engaged in reviving the industry in the country. South Africa's

**MUMBAI**

India's service sector saw a spectacular growth in the month of December. S&P Global said this in a survey result on Monday. In December, the service sector performed impressively and reached a four-month high. The survey result is known as the Purchasing Managers Index (PMI), which rose to 59.3 in December as against 58.4 in November. However, the survey report says that growth in the service sector has shrunk to manufacturing. Its PMI fell to a 12-month low of 54.1 in December. The HSBC India Services Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) was 58.4 in November, 58.5 in October and 57.7 in September. Meaning of PMI Index



The PMI is based on a survey among purchasing managers of 400 companies. An index above 50 indicates expansion, while an index below 50 indicates contraction. HSBC economist Ines Lam said India's service sector companies expressed strong optimism in December. As a result, the PMI reached a four-month high. The survey said cost burdens increased marginally in

December, although more spending was reported on food, labor and materials, as selling price inflation also eased during the month. **Contribution of service sector to GDP** The service sector is the backbone of India's economy. It contributes more than half of the country's gross domestic product or GDP. India's economy grew 8.2% in FY 2023-24,

boosted by a 7.8% expansion in the January-March 2024 quarter and exceeded the Reserve Bank of India's projected 7% growth rate for that financial year. GDP growth declined to 6.7% in the first quarter of 2024-25, the slowest pace in five quarters. India's economic growth slowed further to 5.4% in the second quarter of FY25, the slowest in nearly two years. Business expenses rise Service sector companies saw their business expenses rise in December but the inflation rate moderated from November's 15-month high. Anecdotal evidence suggests companies paid more for food, labor and materials. Reflecting a further rise in input costs, companies raised their own charges again in December.

# Vegetable and food prices put a burden on the pocket, Veg-Non Veg thali became expensive

**MUMBAI**

The rising prices of vegetables and food items in December have had a huge impact on the pockets of common people. The sharp rise in the prices of everyday items like potatoes, onions and tomatoes has increased the cost of veg and non-veg thali by 6% and 12% respectively on an annual basis. At the same time, the prices of broiler chicken have also seen an increase of 20%. However, on a month-on-month basis, there has been some relief in the prices of veg thali, while the prices of non-veg thali have increased. Let us know through the Crisil report how this inflation affected the prices of the thali. **Veg and non-veg thali became**

**expensive** According to the report of Crisil Limited, due to the rise in vegetable prices, the price of home-made vegetarian thali increased by 6 per cent on an annual basis to Rs 31.60 in December, which was Rs 29.70 a year ago. A sharp rise in the price of key staples like potatoes and tomatoes - which account for 24 per cent of the cost of a vegetarian thali - drove the rise. Meanwhile, the price of a non-vegetarian thali rose 12 per cent year-on-year to Rs 63.30 from Rs 56.40 a year ago. Tomato prices rose 24 per cent year-on-year to Rs 47 per kg from Rs 38 in December, while potato prices rose 50 per cent to Rs 36 per kg from Rs 24 a year ago. The steep rise in potato prices is attributed to an estimated 6 per cent



drop in production due to poor yields caused by the late blight virus in key states like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. Vegetable oil prices also rose 16 per cent year-on-year due to high import duty and increased seasonal

demand during the festive and wedding season. The increase in the cost of non-vegetarian thali was due to an estimated 20 per cent year-on-year increase in the price of broiler chicken, which accounts for 50 per cent of the total cost.

Crisil said the sharp jump in broiler prices is due to the low base of last year, when production was higher. **Prices fall compared to November** However, vegetarian food saw some relief on a monthly basis. Vegetarian thali prices fell 3 per cent to Rs 31.60 in December from Rs 32.70 in November due to a 12 per cent drop in tomato prices due to fresh supplies from Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat. A 2 per cent drop in potato prices and a 12 per cent drop in onion prices also contributed to the month-on-month reduction. Non-vegetarian thali prices rose 3 per cent month-on-month, from Rs 61.50 in November to Rs 63.30 in December. Crisil said this was due

to an 11 per cent rise in broiler chicken prices, which was further aggravated by reduced production amid a cold wave in northern India, rising festive season demand and increased feed costs. **Significant fall in fuel prices** There has been tremendous relief in fuel prices. The price of a 14.2 kg LPG cylinder in Delhi fell 11 per cent year-on-year to Rs 803 in December from Rs 903 a year ago. Retail inflation based on CPI fell from a 14-month high of 6.21 per cent in October to a three-month low of 5.48 per cent in November. Rising thali prices reflect the direct impact of food inflation on household expenditure, with the average cost of preparing food serving as an important barometer of consumer distress.



# Delhi government directs hospitals to stay prepared amid concerns over HMPV surge

AGENCY ■

**NEW DELHI :** Delhi government on Monday directed all the hospitals in the capital to remain fully prepared to manage a potential surge in respiratory illnesses following the detection of two cases of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) in Karnataka. In a directive marked "Most Urgent", Delhi health minister Saurabh Bharadwaj instructed the health and family welfare department to closely monitor the situation, and remain in constant touch with the Union health ministry for timely updates. "Hospitals under the Delhi government must be fully equipped to handle any potential increase in respiratory illnesses, as advised by the Union health ministry," the directive issued by Bharadwaj said.The health secretary has been tasked with



inspecting three government hospitals daily, beginning with the largest facilities, and submit detailed reports on several key parameters, including availability of medicines as per the essential drug list, ICU beds, and the operational status of PSA oxygen plants and radiological equipment.The hospitals are also required to ensure the availability of data entry operators at the

OPD and IPD counters, besides adhering to the standard operating procedures for acute respiratory illnesses.The directions came after the Union health ministry confirmed that the Indian Council of Medical Research had detected two cases of HMPV in Karnataka through routine surveillance for multiple respiratory viral pathogens.First, a three-month-old female infant

with a history of bronchopneumonia was diagnosed with HMPV after being admitted to Baptist Hospital in Bengaluru. She has now been discharged. In the second case, an eight-month-old male infant, also with a history of bronchopneumonia, tested positive for HMPV on January 3 at Baptist Hospital. He is now recovering, the ministry said."It is important to track the trends in respiratory illnesses across the national capital and act promptly on any issues requiring attention. Any matter needing immediate decisions should be reported directly over phone," Bharadwaj said in the directive.The minister's office underscored that HMPV is already in circulation globally, including in India, with respiratory illnesses associated with the virus being reported from various countries.

# Several miners trapped in coal mine in Assam's Dima Hasao

AGENCY ■

**DISPUR :** Several miners are feared trapped inside a coal mine in a remote area in the north-east Indian state of Assam and the state has requested the army's assistance in rescue operations, authorities said on Monday.As of Monday evening, rescue operations were underway, and authorities were "ascertaining the exact number of people trapped," Assam Director General of Police GP Singh told Reuters."As of now, input indicates that numbers would be in single digits. The State Disaster Response Force has been pressed into service," he said.The mine is in a remote area in Assam's hilly Dima Hasao district. Local media reported the miners were trapped by



flooding."We have requested the Army's assistance in the ongoing rescue operation. The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) are also on their way to the incident site to aid in the efforts," Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma wrote on X.The Dima Hasao district's superintendent of Police (SP) and administrative head (Deputy Commissioner)

were on their way to the spot.Mayank Kumar Jha, Dima Hasao SP, told Reuters the area was very "remote" and "difficult to reach".Coal mine-related disasters in the remote northeastern part of India are not uncommon. In one of the biggest disasters, in 2019, at least 15 miners were buried while working in an illegal mine in the neighbouring state of Meghalaya after water from a nearby river flooded it.

## Assam Congress plans massive statewide reorganisation for 2026 assembly polls

**DISPUR :** Assam Congress president Bhupen Kumar Borah on Sunday said he will carry out a statewide reshuffle of all office-bearers of the party in February, with an eye on the assembly elections next year.In an interview with PTI, he said around 90 per cent of the office-bearers will be changed after assessing their capability, loyalty and performance in the last three-and-half years."I'll carry out a statewide reshuffle in February to strengthen the party, keeping an eye on the next year's assembly elections," Borah said.He also spoke about the forthcoming panchayat election in the state and the party's preparedness for it."No alliance will take place at state level, but district units have been authorised to take a decision on the alliance with like-minded opposition parties," Borah said.The Congress state chief also mentioned the party's preparation for the assembly elections in Assam in 2026 and elaborated various programmes including several 'yatras' planned during the year.



## Many big Congress leaders join BJP camp, CM Dhami said 'Welcome'

**DEHRADUN:** Ahead of the urban local body elections in Uttarakhand, many senior leaders of the party, including Congress state unit vice-president Mathura Dutt Joshi, joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Joshi was reportedly unhappy after the party high command did not give ticket to his wife for the mayor seat in Pithoragarh. Other leaders who joined BJP today include former Congress state unit vice-president Bittu Karnataka and two-time district panchayat president Jagat Singh Khatri. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and BJP state unit president Mahendra Bhatt welcomed the leaders into the ruling party at the party's state office here last Saturday.Today, Chief Minister Dhami welcomed the three senior Congress leaders into the BJP and expressed confidence that the party will benefit from their energy and ability in the civic elections. He also questioned the understanding of the Congress leadership and said that qualified and good people have no value in the Congress.Describing the leaders who left Congress and joined BJP as hardworking and capable people, Dhami expressed confidence that BJP will benefit from their experience in the civic elections.The Chief Minister said that there is no respect for capable and good people in Congress. The leaders who left Congress and joined BJP said that Congress is not giving proper respect to dedicated workers. Joshi said that he joined BJP because there is no respect for honest workers in Congress.He said, "I worked with full honesty in Congress but there is no respect for all this in the party. That is why I have taken membership of BJP.



## Police file chargesheet in Baba Siddique murder case : 'Anmol Bishnoi ordered hit to strike fear'

New Delhi : Police on Monday filed a charge sheet in NCP leader Baba Siddique's murder case stating that gangster Anmol Bishnoi carried out the killing to create an atmosphere of fear through his organised crime syndicate.The 4,590-page charge sheet was filed in a special court against 26 arrested accused and three wanted persons, including Anmol Bishnoi, the brother of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi.As per the charge sheet, Anmol Bishnoi hatched a conspiracy to kill Siddique with the intention to instil fear and dominance over the crime syndicate.Besides Anmol Bishnoi, the other wanted accused are Mohammad Yasin Akhtar and Shubham Lonkar.Police have so far arrested 26 people and invoked stringent Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime (MCOC) Act against them.



## 'BJP only national party owned by people and party workers' : Maharashtra CM Fadnavis

AGENCY ■

**NEW DELHI :** Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis on Sunday said that the BJP is the only national party that is not "owned" by any family but by its workers. Speaking at a party event, Fadnavis called BJP a democratic organisation. There are more than 2,300 registered parties in the country but those that are national parties can be counted on fingertips, he said. There are only two parties – the BJP and the Communist Party of India – that are not owned by any family, he said.Almost all of the 2,300 parties are privately owned, Fadnavis said."The Communist Party of India is no longer a national party. But the BJP is the only national party that is owned by people and party



workers. No leader owns the party and it has its own constitution," Fadnavis said. The Communist Party of India (Marxist) is a national party.Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rise from humble beginnings, Fadnavis said the BJP is the only party where a boy who once sold tea becomes the CM (of Gujarat) and then the PM.He said Modi had no rela-

tive in politics and no godfather, but could still reach the top position.Narrating his own political journey, Fadnavis said he started at the booth level, became ward president and went on to become the CM thrice. "This is possible only in the BJP. This is a party of people and party workers," he added.He also launched the party's special membership drive in Nagpur. Fadnavis said BJP has enrolled 11 crore members that have been verified and it has become the world's largest political party.The BJP has set the target of enrolling 1.5 crore members from Maharashtra.Talking to reporters later, Fadnavis said the special membership drive is being held at 1 lakh booths across the state with an aim of enrolling 25 lakh members on Sunday.

## Swami Sachchidananda doing pilgrimage for Maha Kumbh in 'Devalaya Bus', world's heaviest crystal Shivling is here

AGENCY ■

**MAHAKUMBH NAGAR :** The country's biggest religious event i.e. Maha Kumbh is about to start, a large number of people are reaching to participate in this event. There are many saints in this who were waiting for Maha Kumbh for a long time. There is also a saint who does not stay in a hut, but in a bus where a complete temple is also established.A white colored bus standing in the camp being built near Alopshankari intersection on



Sangam Lower Road in Sector-18 for the last one month is attracting everyone's attention, in which the world's heaviest 'crystal' Shivling is kept. Swami Sachchidananda

## Nithari killings case: Supreme Court to hear on March 25 pleas against Surendra Koli's acquittal

AGENCY ■

**NEW DELHI :** The Supreme Court on Monday said it would on March 25 hear a batch of pleas against the acquittal of Surendra Koli in the 2006 Nithari serial killings case.A bench of Justices B R Gavai and Augustine George Masih was informed by solicitor general Tushar Mehta that the case was over the "very serious and gruesome" killings in Nithari, UP.Koli's counsel said the evidence against his client was a confessional statement, recorded several days after his police custody in the case.The bench directed its registry to summon the trial court records in other connected matters expeditiously and supply its copies to the lawyers appearing in the matter.In 2024, the apex court agreed to examine separate

pleas filed by the CBI and the UP government challenging the Allahabad High Court's decision acquitting Koli on October 16, 2023.The bench had sought a response from Koli on the petitions and tagged it with similar pending pleas.The top court in May, 2024, agreed to hear a plea filed by the father of one of the victims challenging the high court's acquittal verdict.Koli was awarded death penalty on September 28, 2010 by the trial court.Moninder Singh Pandher and his domestic help Koli were accused of rape and murder of persons, mostly children, in their neighbourhood in Nithari, UP.The high court acquitted them in the death penalty case and said the prosecution had failed to prove their guilt "beyond reasonable doubt" while calling it a "botched up" investigation.

## Govt launches two special categories visas for international students

AGENCY ■

**NEW DELHI :** India has launched two special category visa for international students intending to pursue higher education in academic institutions in the country.The 'e-student visa' and 'e-student-x' visa have been introduced by the Ministry of Home Affairs and all applicants will have to use the 'Study in India' (SII) portal launched by the government, officials said. The e-student visa facility can be availed by eligible foreign students registered on the SII portal while e-student-x visa is offered to the dependents of those holding e-student visas, they said.The SII portal



facilitates the admission process of international students who wish to pursue either long-term or short-term courses in India. Students will need to apply for a visa separately on the portal <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/> but the authenticity of their application will be checked by SII ID.Hence it is mandatory for students to apply to

Indian higher educational institutions through SII website, the officials said. Students may apply for the visa after receiving an admission offer letter from any of the SII partner institutes.The e-student visa will be granted to such foreign nationals who obtain admission to studying in India and who wish to pursue such studies, regular,

full-time, courses of undergraduate, post graduation, PhD and such other formal programmes at educational institutes duly recognised by the statutory and regulatory body in India, the officials said. Student visas are issued for up to five years, depending on the duration of the course. They can also be extended in India.Further, those having valid e-student visas can enter India from any desired port of immigration check post, the officials said.The SII is a flagship project of the Ministry of Education which hosts international students seeking higher education through its 600+ partner institutes offering

more than 8000+ diverse courses in disciplines such as engineering & technology, management, agriculture, sciences, arts and humanities, language studies, commerce, law, paramedical sciences covering pharmacy, nursing, and select niche courses like Buddhist Studies, Yoga, etc.Furthermore, they are available in different levels, from Undergraduate (Bachelors), Post-graduate (Masters), Doctoral level (PhD) and certification-based courses.Due to the availability of an array of options (in courses), the students have the flexibility to choose the course of their interest and study in premier Indian institutes.

## Third successive foggy morning in Delhi, 51 trains delayed

AGENCY ■

**NEW DELHI :** Vehicles ply on road amid fog, in New Delhi, Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025. Dense fog enveloped the national capital on Saturday, reducing visibility to zero for an unprecedented nine-hour stretch, the longest spell of the season, according to the weather department.A thick layer of fog enveloped several areas of Delhi for a third consecutive morning, leading to 51 trains being delayed, officials said on Sunday.The Met office said there was zero visibility at Palam between 4 am and 7:30am. On Saturday, Palam had recorded a nine-hour spell of zero visibility. General visibility at the Palam and



the Safdarjung airports was reduced to zero in very dense fog at 7:30 am.In a related development, the national capital's air quality was in the 'very poor' category, with an Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 372 at 9 am, according to Central Pollution Control Board data.An AQI between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfactory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201

and 300 'poor', 301 and 400 'very poor', and 401 and 500 'severe'.The minimum temperature settled two notches above normal at 9.4 degrees Celsius. The humidity level was recorded at 95 per cent at 8:30am. The Met office has predicted dense to very dense fog during the day. The maximum temperature is likely to settle around 18 degrees Celsius.



# Bangladesh’s International Crimes Tribunal issues second arrest warrant against ex-PM Hasina

**AGENCY ■**

**DHAKA:** Bangladesh’s International Criminal Tribunal (ICT) on Monday issued arrest warrants against deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina and 11 others, including former military generals and an ex-police chief, for their alleged role in incidents of enforced disappearances. This was the second arrest warrant by the ICT against Hasina, who fled to India after her Awami League regime’s toppling following unprecedented anti-government protests in August last year. The tribunal has so far recorded three cases against her. "Justice Md Golam Mortuza Moju mdar, chairman of the tribunal, issued the arrest warrant after hearing a prosecution plea," an ICT official said. The Inspector General of Police was ordered to arrest the twelve people, including Hasina, and produce them before the tribunal on February 12 in the case filed over complaints of enforced disappearances of several hundred people. The deposed premier’s then-defence adviser Major General (ret’d) Tarique Ahmed Siddique and former IGP Benazir Ahmed are among those named in the case. While Siddique is currently under custody, Ahmed is believed to be on the run. ICT Chief Prosecutor Mohammad Tajul Islam did not disclose the names of most of the accused “in the interest of investigations and their arrest” .“The next hearing for this case is also scheduled for February 12. The tribunal has instructed



that the investigation report be submitted on that day if completed,” Islam later told reporters. He, however, said if the investigation report could not be submitted by then, the law enforcement agencies would have to provide a progress report on the arrests. Islam told the tribunal that the ousted regime had established a culture of enforced disappearances under state sponsorship. The chief prosecutor alleged that those involved in carrying out these disappearances were rewarded. He added that agencies like the elite anti-crime Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), the police’s Detective Branch (DB), the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, and the Directorate of Forces

Intelligence (DGFI) were most frequently used for the purpose.“Over the past 15 years, a culture of fear was established in Bangladesh through enforced disappearances and crossfires. Thousands of people were abducted by various forces, either in plainclothes or in uniform. Most of them never returned,” Islam told journalists. Last month, Dhaka officially sought Hasina’s extradition from India. While New Delhi acknowledged the receipt of the letter, it refrained from commenting on it. The ICT issued the first arrest warrant against the ex-premier on October 17 on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity committed during the July-August protests and uprising.

# Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau may resign soon, opposition is growing within the party

**AGENCY ■**

**OTTAWA:** A media report has said that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau may resign as the leader of the Liberal Party this week due to internal dissatisfaction and declining popularity in the party. The 'Globe and Mail' newspaper, citing sources, said that it is not clear when Trudeau will step down, but his resignation is expected before an important meeting on Wednesday. Trudeau has been the Prime Minister of Canada since 2015. Trudeau has been under pressure from his Liberal Party MPs to step down for several months. A source who recently spoke to the Prime Minister said that 53-year-old Trudeau believes that he needs to make a statement before the party meeting (Liberal



caucus), so that it does not look like he has been forcibly removed by his own MPs. Sources said that it is not clear whether Trudeau will step down immediately or will remain the Prime Minister until a new leader is elected. The report said the Liberal Party's national executive will decide on leadership issues and is scheduled to meet this week. A source said on Sunday that he estimates

Trudeau will remain in his post until a new leader is chosen. A Liberal Party source said it would take at least three months to decide on the leadership, although the party constitution provides for a minimum of four months. The news of Trudeau's resignation comes at a time when his popularity in the country is continuously declining and elections are to be held in the country by the end of October.

# Two major defense deals between India-France in final stages, PM Modi to visit Paris in February

**AGENCY ■**

**NEW DELHI:** Two major defense deals between India and France are now in the final stages, estimated to be worth over \$10 billion in total. These deals could bring significant changes to the Indian defense sector, including Rafale-M fighter jets and Scorpene-class submarines. These deals will be presented to the Indian Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) for approval and they will be ready for approval in the next few weeks. The first major deal among these deals is the purchase of 26 Rafale-M fighter jets, which will be purchased for the Indian Navy's aircraft carriers. Rafale aircraft have already been inducted by the Indian Air Force, and now they will



be important for the Navy. These aircraft will be added to the Indian Navy's aircraft carriers such as INS Vikramaditya and the future INS Vikrant. Rafale-M fighter jets are equipped with highly advanced technology, which will take the Indian Navy's air power to a new height. These aircraft have state-of-the-art weapon systems, radars and combat capabilities, which will help strengthen maritime defense. India already has a large fleet of Rafale aircraft, and now the addition of these aircraft to the

Navy will further strengthen Indian maritime security. The second big deal is the purchase of three additional Scorpene-class submarines. Scorpene submarines are state-of-the-art and highly advanced submarines, which will further strengthen the maritime defense mechanism of the Indian Navy. The Indian Navy already has a few submarines of this class, and now the addition of three more submarines will further strengthen the security situation in the Indian seas. These submarines will be used to

track and destroy enemy submarines, monitor enemy activities within the sea and protect India's maritime borders. Scorpene submarines are equipped with extreme stealth and advanced technological capabilities, which enable them to evade any enemy at sea. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is going to visit Paris in February 2025, where he will attend the Artificial Intelligence Action Summit organized by French President Emmanuel Macron. The summit will discuss promoting technological and economic cooperation between India and France. Along with this, there will also be important discussions on the defense cooperation of India and France, and these two big defense deals can be finally approved.

# India condemns Pakistan's attacks on Afghanistan

**AGENCY ■**

**NEW DELHI:** 46 innocent civilians killed 46 innocent people, including women and children, have died in air strikes carried out by Pakistan in Afghanistan. According to the Taliban government, these attacks took place in Barmal district of Paktika province, where refugees were targeted. Six others were injured in the attacks. The incident has attracted the attention of the international community. **India expressed strong objection** On Monday, India strongly condemned these air strikes, calling it Pakistan's "old practice of blaming neighbors for its internal failures." The Indian Foreign Ministry said in a statement, "We



have taken note of media reports of air strikes on Afghan civilians, including women and children. Any attack on innocent civilians must be unequivocally condemned." Afghan government protests attacks by Pakistani army Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry lodged strong protest over the incident and summoned the Pakistani envoy in Kabul. The Afghan gov-

ernment said in its statement that the Pakistani army carried out this attack when Pakistan's civilian representative was holding talks in Kabul. Kabul called the attack a betrayal between the two countries and said "such irresponsible actions will have grave consequences."Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) spokesman Mohammad Khurasani claimed that 50

people were killed in the air strikes, including 27 women and children. The TTP also said that these refugees had fled Afghanistan due to attacks in Pakistan's north-west. They also shared pictures of children who were victims of the attacks. Questions raised on Pakistan's strategy Pakistan's special representative Mohammad Sadiq had come to Kabul for talks with Afghan officials. But these attacks, which took place a few hours after the talks, have raised questions about Pakistan's intentions. This incident has raised serious concerns over regional stability. India and Afghanistan have categorically condemned these actions of Pakistan and sought intervention from the international community.

# Russia claims it captured another town in eastern Ukraine but Kyiv doesn't confirm loss

**AGENCY ■**

**KYIV:** Russian troops in eastern Ukraine have captured the stronghold of Kurakhove after a months-long battle, Russia's Defence Ministry claimed Monday, adding the wrecked town to the Kremlin's list of conquests in the partially occupied Donetsk region during the almost three-year war. The claim, which drew no response from Ukrainian authorities, came a day after the Russian Defense Ministry said Ukrainian forces had launched a new thrust in Russia's Kursk border region. The inauguration in two weeks' time of U.S. President-elect Donald Trump has brought a new element of uncertainty into the conflict and triggered an apparent effort by both sides to establish battlefield gains



before any possible peace talks are held. Trump hasn't detailed his plans for accomplishing his goal of ending the fighting, but his presence in the White House is likely to significantly affect how the war plays out. Kurakhove is a key stronghold for the Ukrainian army on the eastern front line. It has an industrial zone, a thermal power plant and a reservoir. It also sits on a highway running between eastern and southern Ukraine. In November, The Associated Press reported

from the town that some 7,000-10,000 people likely remained in Kurakhove. Its prewar population was about twice that. The town has been under relentless attacks from artillery, multiple rocket launchers, powerful guided bombs and drones that have shattered buildings. Ukrainian officials usually comment on major battlefield defeats only days after Russia announces them. Russia has this year been driving westward in a slow and costly effort to capture all of Donetsk. Ukraine is

short of troops on the front lines and is straining to hold back the bigger Russian army. Russian forces are trying to close in on nearby Pokrovsk, which is a key road junction and a rail distribution center, furnishing supplies to a broad span of the Ukrainian front line. In 2022, Moscow illegally annexed the Donetsk and neighboring Luhansk regions, which make up the Donbas industrial area, together with southeastern provinces of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia. But Russian forces don't fully control any of the four. Ukraine is keen to get new Western military aid delivered quickly, and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Sunday he hoped more would be pledged later this week at a meeting with Western partners in Germany.

# Five Indian-origin men charged with murder of Indian man in United States

**AGENCY ■**

**NEW YORK:** Five Indian-origin men have been charged with murder in the US in connection with the death of a 35-year-old man from India. Sandeep Kumar, 34, of South Ozone Park, New York, was charged with murder and conspiracy to commit murder in connection with the death of Kuldeep Kumar in Manchester Township around October 22, 2024, according to a statement on Saturday by Ocean County Prosecutor Bradley Billhimer and Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police Colonel Patrick Callahan. Investigation into Kuldeep's death revealed that Sandeep acted in concert with other defendants in carrying out Kuldeep Kumar's murder. Other



defendants in the case are Sourav Kumar, 23, Gaurav Singh 27, Nirmal Singh 30, and Gurdeep Singh 22, all from Greenwood, Indiana. On December 14, 2024, the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office Major Crime Unit was contacted for a report of a deceased individual located in the Greenwood Wildlife Management Area in Manchester Township. Law enforcement authorities and detectives discovered a deceased individual in a state of advanced decomposition, the statement said. According to a

post-mortem examination performed by the Ocean County Medical Examiner's Office, the cause of the individual's death was multiple gunshot wounds to the chest, and the manner of death was homicide. The individual was identified as Kuldeep Kumar of India. Initial investigation by the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office Major Crime Unit and New Jersey State Police Major Crime Unit revealed that Kumar had been reported missing by family members on October 26, 2024.

Following an investigation that involved several law enforcement agencies, it was determined that Sourav, Gaurav, Nirmal and Gurdeep acted together and in support of one another in carrying out the murder of Kuldeep Kumar. Sourav and Gaurav were charged with murder and conspiracy to commit murder on December 19. Nirmal and Gurdeep were charged with the same crimes on December 20. They were transported to Johnson County Jail in Franklin, Indiana, where they will remain lodged pending their extradition to New Jersey. Sandeep was taken into custody on January 3 and processed at the New Jersey State Police Barracks in Holmdel. Kumar was later transported to the Ocean County Jail, where he is presently lodged pending a detention hearing.

# Air strike in Sudan's capital Khartoum, 10 killed, 30 others injured

**AGENCY ■**

**KHARTOUM:** At least 10 people were killed and 30 others injured in an air strike targeting an area south of Sudan's capital Khartoum on Sunday. A volunteer group and local media have given this information. A local volunteer group South Khartoum Emergency Room said in a statement, "Ten people were killed and 30 others were injured, including five cases of burns, after an air strike targeting Al-Sahrij station in the Mayo neighborhood south of Khartoum."The group said that Al-Sahrij station had been bombed three times within a month. He said that the area is usually crowded with civilians due to the presence of a market and many food shops. Sudanese news portal Al-Rakoba reported on Sunday that most of the people injured in the air strike were transferred to Bashir Hospital, located about four km from the scene. No group has claimed responsibility for



the attack. According to the latest estimates by international organizations, Sudan has been in the grip of a devastating civil conflict since mid-April 2023. At least 29,683 people have lost their lives in the conflict and more than 14 million people have been displaced.

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# Elon Musk calls UK PM Keir Starmer 'National Shame', demands resignation

**AGENCY ■**

**WASHINGTON:** Billionaire Elon Musk has opened a front against UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and demanded his resignation. Elon called the British Prime Minister a 'National Shame' in a post on social media platform X. The comments come after Musk's repeated criticism of Starmer's handling of gangs created during his time as Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) from 2008 to 2013. In a series of posts, Musk accused Starmer of failing to bring the 'Jabbar Jannah gang' to justice. Specifically targeted Pakistani-Muslim grooming

gangs that systematically exploited young girls. Musk's comments have drawn public attention to the issue. However, Health Secretary Wes Streeting called Musk's criticism "false and certainly misinformed." Musk also criticised the Starmer government for alleged collusion and called for a new election in July 2024 despite the Labour Party's landslide victory. Amid all this, critics including pollster Luke Trial have argued that Musk, who has made comments against British politics, has no grasp on British politics. Elon Musk also attacked Jess Phillips, the minister for the prevention of vio-



lence against women and girls, suggesting that she "deserves to be in prison" for opposing a national inquiry into the Oldham scandal. Musk backed the controversial Tommy Robinson, who is currently serving a prison sentence for contempt of court. He supported Robinson and called for his release from

prison. Musk's involvement in UK politics took a new turn when he criticised Reform UK leader Nigel Farage on X and urged him to step down. Musk said, "Farage is not doing what he's supposed to do" and suggested that the party needs a new leader. Musk's growing involvement in British poli-

tics has sparked a major debate. Some critics have accused him of supporting far-right movements across Europe. **Elon Musk's survey** After all these developments, Tesla founder and billionaire Elon Musk has started a survey on the social media platform X, in which he has titled that America should free the people of Britain from their tyrannical government. Let us tell you that millions of people are doing this survey. Till the time of writing the news, about five lakh people have responded to this survey. Out of this, 64 percent supported that America should support the British people.



# India's bench strength: Plenty of batting options; bowling talent sparse

**AGENCY** ■

New Delhi : The nightmarish batting performance is deservedly under the scanner after India's meek surrender in the Border-Gavaskar series but a closer look at the team's bench strength would reveal that bowling resources are a bigger concern for the side as it navigates a difficult transition.Skipper Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli's Test future hangs in balance after their poor returns with the bat but the national selection committee has the reserves to ensure that the order remains a solid one even if the two giants were to be phased out.The cupboard in the fast bowling department is bare and it will take some time to prepare another crack line-up that can match up to the aura of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami and Ishant Sharma.The available names are doing their best but is that enough for the team or

for Bumrah, whose workload became a massive concern during the just-concluded series? The spearhead was forced to watch from the dressing room during the last innings of the decisive fifth and final Test that India lost by six wickets as back spasms prevented him from bowling.Mohammed Siraj, after 36 Tests, hasn't developed into a game-changer yet and Prasidh Krishna bowls too many loose balls.There is the duo of Akash Deep and Mukesh Kumar, who are skilful, but they are not really tested at the highest level.

In the Ranji circuit, there aren't too many exciting fast bowling options that the selectors can explore as of now.The main problem seems to be a dearth of left-arm seamers as Arshdeep Singh hasn't actually set the stage on fire and Yash Dayal doesn't look a finished product.But when it comes to batting there is some real talent available although the Ajit



Agarkar-led selection committee will not decide anything till the end of the Ranji Trophy season.If the panel decides to move away from Rohit and Kohli or the two announce retirements, there are at least half a dozen name ready to stake a claim for the two slots that will open up.One of the prime contenders could be B Sai Sudharsan of Tamil

Nadu.The elegant left-hander impressed in his appearance for India A against Australia A in Mackay but then he had a sports hernia operation and is undergoing rehabilitation.As and when Sudharsan is ready and if there are at least a couple of slots, he should be in contention provided he is in form and has the requisite fitness levels.In the current set-up,

there is Devdutt Padikkal, another stylish and sinewy left-hander, who has played a couple of Tests.Abhimanyu Easwaran has been around the side for three years now but there is a belief in the Indian cricketing circle that he is not cut out for bigger challenges in SENA (South Africa, England, New Zealand and Australia). A proof of it the recent series,

where he travelled with the squad but wasn't even remotely in contention for a playing XI slot in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.For Sarfaraz Khan, his technique against real quick bowling was always doubtful but the manner in which he got out in Pune and Mumbai in the home Tests against New Zealand has made the current team management wary.In most of the venues, Sarfaraz didn't even come out to bat during the customary net sessions, an indication that he is quite low in the pecking order. There is every chance that he might not make it to squad for the upcoming limited-overs series against England.There are also three seasoned players who might get a second wind if the second half of Ranji Trophy goes well for them.They are Chennai Super Kings skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad, who is yet to make his debut, three-Test-old Rajat Patidar and Mumbai's very own Shreyas

Iyer.Iyer's problem has been the short ball, while Patidar flattered to deceive against England at home last year.Gaikwad failed in two India A games Down Under but his pedigree is unquestionable.It is understood that the selection committee won't be looking at just the volume of runs or wickets but would also focus on impactful performances.

A century on a Lahli green top or a five-wicket haul on a Rajkot belter would carry more weight than performances in favourable conditions.

How a young bowler is coming back with the old ball for his third or fourth spell or how a batter is dealing with spinners on rank turners will also hold more credence.But any decision on who would be elevated to the next level will be taken only after the end of the domestic season in February. India's next red-ball assignment is the tour of England in June.

## Harmanpreet, Renuka rested for India women's home ODI series against Ireland, Smriti to lead

**AGENCY** ■

NEW DELHI : Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and pacer Renuka Singh Thakur have been rested for India women's three-match home ODI series against Ireland, the BCCI announced on Monday.Opener Smriti Mandhana will lead the side in the series, beginning on January 10 at Rajkot, in the absence of Harmanpreet. Harmanpreet had suffered a knee injury during the home series against the West Indies last month, forcing her to sit out of the last two



T20Is before returning to play three ODIs.Before that, the 35-year-old had sustained a neck injury during the match against Pakistan in the Women's T20 World Cup in Dubai

in October last year.Lead pacer Renuka was the player of the series in the one-dayers against the West Indies after taking 10 wickets from three matches.In the past, a stress

fracture on the back had troubled her, so the move to rest her for the series against Ireland could be to ease her workload.India's squad for the three-match ODI series against Ireland: Smriti Mandhana (C), Deepti Sharma (VC), Pratika Rawal, Harleen Deol, Jemimah Rodrigues, Uma Chetry (wk), Richa Ghosh (wk), Tejal Hasabnis, Raghvi Bist, Minnu Mani, Priya Mishra, Tanuja Kanwer, Titas Sadhu, Saima Thakor, Sayali Satghare.Schedule (All matches in Rajkot, starts at 11 AM) 1st ODI: January 10 2nd ODI: January 12 3rd ODI: January 15.

## Border-Gavaskar Trophy: Australia debacle exposes India's Jasprit Bumrah dependency

**New Delhi** : India's 3-1 defeat in Australia exposed the fragility of their top order, but equally unmissable was how much they rely on pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, who gave it all until he broke down in the series finale in Sydney.The seam-bowling genius finished the five-test series with 32 wickets at an average of 13.06 and was the obvious choice for the player-of-the-series award despite being on the losing side.Bumrah, laid low by a back spasm, was not available to bowl in Australia's second innings in the low-scoring thriller in Sydney where the hosts prevailed by six wickets to reclaim the Border-Gavaskar Trophy after a decade."It's a little disappointing in the end because I probably missed out on the spiciest wicket of the series," a dejected Bumrah said after India lost the series even though his own stature grew.Australia run-machine Travis Head said he could not think of a better individual display than Bumrah's superlative performance in the series.Former India opener Wasim Jaffer said Bumrah alone kept alive India's hopes of levelling the series in Sydney until his injury."Every time Bumrah stood at the top of his mark this series Aus cricket fans held their breath and only released it after the ball was played out safely," Jaffer wrote on X.But there is a limit even for arguably the best all-format bowler of his generation, who was over-bowled with little support from the other end.His new-ball partner Mohammed Siraj, who finished with 20 wickets, was inconsistent and expensive in the low-scoring series.Akash Deep bowled well in Brisbane and Melbourne before a back injury cut short his tour, while Prasidh Krishna claimed six wickets in the only test he played in Sydney.The difference between the bowling averages of Bumrah and his seam-bowling teammates stood at 21.76, suggesting Bumrah operated as India's one-man army with the ball.He bowled 53.2 overs in Melbourne - the highest in his 45-test career - and skipper Rohit Sharma conceded they over-bowled Bumrah.



# Focus on Satwik-Chirag as Indians look for strong start at season-opening Malaysia Open

**AGENCY** ■

New Delhi : India's doubles duo of Satwiksairaj Ranki-reddy and Chirag Shetty will aim for a strong result, Lakshya Sen will look to build on his recent form and HS Prannoy will hope to shake off rust after a lengthy break at the season-opening Malaysia Super 1000 tournament starting here on Tuesday.For Satwik and Chirag, seeded seventh, this USD 1.45 million event marks the start of a new season like it did in 2024.Last year, although they narrowly missed out on the title, the pairing went on to reach three more finals, winning two of them.The Asian Games gold medalists were in exceptional form and will be hoping to replicate that success this year. Having reunited with Malaysian coach Kim Tan Her, the former world number ones are determined to go the distance, but they face a tough challenge ahead.The high calibre of opponents in their draw will make the path to victory anything but easy.Satwik and Chirag, who reached the semifinals of the 2024 China Masters in their last event, will open their campaign against the pair of Ming Che Lu and Tang Kai Wei from Chinese Taipei.If they progress, they are



likely to face a quarterfinal clash against Indonesia's fourth seeds Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto, a matchup that promises to be a thrilling contest.In men's singles, Lakshya will look to carry forward his recent success after ending a long title drought with a victory at the Syed Modi International Super 300 and a third-place finish at the King Cup International last month. These wins have given him much-needed confidence, and he will aim to make a deep run in the Super 1000 event.Prannoy, on the

other hand, will be returning to action after a five-month hiatus following his prequarter-final exit at the Paris Olympics. The 32-year-old, who had to take a break due to chikungunya and to regain his fitness, will be hoping to shake off any rust.Priyanshu Rajawat, who has shown flashes of brilliance but has struggled with consistency, will face seventh-seeded Chinese player Li Shi Feng in his opening match.In women's singles, two-time Olympic medalist PV Sindhu will be missing from the tournament, having recently got

married. In her absence, other Indian players -- Malvika Bansod, Aakarshi Kashyap, and Anupama Upadhyaya will look to make their mark. Malvika will open against Malaysia's Goh Jin Wei, Aakarshi will face Denmark's Julie Dawall Jakobsen, and Anupama has a tough task ahead as she faces eighth-seeded Pornpawee Chochuwong in her opener. In women's doubles, the Indian duo of Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, seeded sixth, will look to carry the momentum from a maiden Super 300 title in Lucknow and its participation in the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals.The Indian combination will face Thailand's Ornicha Jongsathapornpam and Sukitta Suwachai in their opening match.Eighth seeds Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa, who retained the Guwahati Masters Super 100 title, will take on Japan's Misaki Matsutomo and Chiharu Shida in their first match. The Panda sisters, Rutupama and Swetaparna, will also be in action, looking to make their presence felt. In mixed doubles, Tanisha Crasto will partner Dhruv Kapila, while Sathish Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath, along with Ashith Surya and Amrutha Pramuthesh, will also compete in their respective events.

## Former India all-rounder Rishi Dhawan retires from domestic limited-over tournaments

**New Delhi** : Former India all-rounder Rishi Dhawan has announced his retirement from domestic limited-over tournaments after the conclusion of the group stage matches of the Vijay Hazare Trophy.Dhawan, who played three ODIs and a T20I for India in 2016, took the decision after Himachal Pradesh failed to advance to the knockout stages of the tournament. However, the 34-year-old will be available for selection for the remainder of the Ranji Trophy season, starting from January 23."It's with a heavy heart, even though I have no regrets, that I'd like to announce my retirement from Indian cricket (Limited over). It's a sport that has defined my life for the past 20 years," Dhawan wrote in a social media post."This game has given me immeasurable joy and countless memories that will always stay very close to my heart," he added.Dhawan, who had led Himachal to their only Hazare title in 2021-22, had a middling run this year, making 196 runs in seven matches at an average of 39.20 with a solitary fifty.A brisk medium pacer, Dhawan took eight wickets from seven matches this season."I want to take a moment to show my gratitude towards the opportunities that were given to me by the Board of Control of Cricket in India (BCCI), Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association (HPCA), Punjab Kings, Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders. "From humble beginnings to representing my nation on the grandest stages, it has been a privilege beyond measure. Cricket has been my passion, and my reason for waking up every morning," he wrote.Overall, Dhawan played 134 List A matches and scored 2906 runs, besides taking 186 wickets.From 135 T20s, Dhawan amassed 1740 runs and 118 wickets."I would like to thank all of my coaches, mentors, teammates, and support staff for the valuable contributions you have made to shaping me into the person I am today," he concluded his post.

## Shan Masood breaks all-time Pakistan record, misses Sachin Tendulkar's historic feat during Newlands Test

**AGENCY** ■

NEW DELHI : Pakistan Test captain Shan Masood has shattered an all-time Pakistan record during the second Test against South Africa at Newlands, Cape Town. Masood and Babar Azam led Pakistan's fightback after the Proteas enforced a follow-on in the first innings of the Newlands Test. The visitors were bowled out cheaply for 194 in reply to South Africa's daunting first-innings score of 615. After being handed a 421 trail in the follow-on Masood and Babar notched up a record 205-run stand for the opening wicket before Babar was dismissed for 81. Masood carried on. He became the first Pakistani captain to score a hundred in South Africa before getting dismissed for 145. Meanwhile, Masood has shattered another all-



time Pakistan record. His 145 is now the highest score by a Pakistani cricketer in South Africa in Test cricket. Masood has shattered the record previously held by Azhar Mahmood, who had scored 136 in a Test against the Proteas in the Johannesburg Test in 1998.

**Highest Test score a Pakistan player in South Africa:**

- 1 - Shan Masood: 145 in South Africa in 2025
- 2 - Azhar Mahmood: 136 in South Africa in 1998
- 3 - Taufeeq Umar: 135 in South Africa in 2003
- 4 - Saeed Anwar: 118 in South Africa in 1998
- 5 - Asad Shafiq: 111 in South Africa in 2013

**Masood misses Sachin's historic feat**

Meanwhile, Masood has missed out on a historic feat of Indian legend Sachin Tendulkar. Former Indian batter Sachin holds the record for the highest score by an Asian captain in South Africa - 169. Masood could have broken that record too had Kwena Maphaka not trapped him LBW.

**Highest score by an Asian captain in South Africa:**

- 1 - Sachin Tendulkar: 169 in South Africa in 1997
- 2 - Virat Kohli: 153 in South Africa in 2018
- 3 - Shan Masood: 145 in South Africa in 2025
- 4 - Dimuth Karunaratne: 103 in South Africa in 2021
- 5 - Saleem Malik: 99 in South Africa in 1995....

## Garvit's Shubharak left everyone behind, horse racing competition for ADLD Toyota Cup



**AGENCY** ■

**LUCKNOW** : Horses and jockeys were taking their positions at the starting point. Horse racing enthusiasts also stood leaning on the poles present near the gallery next to the track. Everyone was eagerly waiting for the Thoroughbred horse race to begin. During this, the gun fired to start the race and the horse race began. Spectators were calling their favourite horses and the jockeys on them by name. The race course echoed with the sound of Come on...and faster. When

the race started from the starting point, Garvit Pandey's horse Shubharak took the lead. As soon as he got the signal from jockey Akhtar Ali, Shubharak completed the race in minutes while talking to the air. However, during the race, JN Mathur's horse Shan-e-Azim, who was second, tried to overtake Shubhrak but could not succeed. Amar Habibullah's horse Pinnacle Poo got the third place. Lt. General Anindya Sengupta gave the trophy to the winners. Before this, the Indian breed race was held. In this race, Rudra left everyone behind.



# Exploring Daman A Coastal Escape with Cultural Riches



Nestled between Gujarat and Maharashtra, Daman enchants travellers with its unique blend of colonial allure, scenic beaches, and relaxed vibe, writes Neeta Lal

The lovely city of Daman, an erstwhile Portuguese colony, offers a unique blend of colonial charm with a laid-back vibe. The administrative capital of the union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, it is located between Gujarat and Maharashtra and attracts high footfall from a diverse set of travellers. Peppered with colonial buildings showcasing a rich syncretic culture, the city’s stately Nani Daman Fort and the Church of Bom Jesus give one a taste of history, while Jampore Beach and Devka Beach make for Instagram-friendly settings for a day of relaxation. But perhaps what makes Daman such a terrific destination for weekend getaways is its tourism infrastructure, including smooth interconnecting motorways, buzzy restaurants, and good hotels. Our abode for a staycation is the award-winning The Deltin Daman, the city’s only five-star hotel. Known for its stellar service and facilities, it mercifully comes without the high tariff

of upscale hotels in Mumbai and other metros. A world-class spa, gourmet cuisine at its multiple restaurants, a large swimming pool, health club, gym, and plush accommodation ticked all the boxes for a fabulous and memorable stay. For business travellers, the hotel houses 30,000 sq ft of business space catering to large events such as corporate conferences and weddings. The hotel’s sustainability efforts are also commendable, with strict procedures in place to prevent water waste in kitchens, guest rooms, and laundry, along with recycling used water for its expansive gardens. As the Deltin group is synonymous with world-class casinos, the theme is reflected in the hotel’s design and architectural elements. Its stunning lobby flaunts a chandelier featuring hearts, spades, diamonds, and clubs (the four suits in a deck of cards) strung together. This theme is also reflected in the glass walls enclosing the lobby. The hotel’s ergonomic and well-furnished rooms are equipped with HD TVs, HD satellite programming, minibars, high-speed internet connectivity, in-room safes, 24x7 room service, and early

check-in options, among others. Our Presidential Suite also came with an efficient butler who took care of our every need, including restaurant and spa bookings as well as sightseeing tours. Close proximity to Jampore Beach, Mirasol Water Park, Devka Beach, Dominican Monastery, and Moti Daman Fort made our local explorations seamless and pleasurable. What’s a good vacation without good food? Indeed, for gastronomes like us, the hotel turned out to be a delight with three award-winning restaurants to explore. One of our lunches was at the Emperor restaurant, which features an extensive menu with Korean, Chinese, Thai, and Japanese offerings. Interestingly, the chefs here have reinvented many dishes to offer an imaginative take on classics. Thus, our fusion lunch featured pillowy soft lotus stem and chicken Chettinad baos as well as black sesame chicken tikka baos. The prawn and chicken dim sums were similarly delicious, while the garlic-infused noodles and chicken in Hainanese sauce transported us to China, sans passports and air tickets! Another lunch at The Vegas all-day dining was also a treat for the taste buds. The spacious eatery offers multi-cuisine buffets with a vast selection of salads, Indian and continental dishes, desserts, and more. The buffet includes a separate section for Jain food – so vegetarians can rejoice too. Being unabashed carnivores, we dug into flavour-packed laal maas, piping hot breads, gobhi and bhindi sabzi, raita, and salad. Dessert was the creamiest ras malai on this side of the Daman Ganga river, garnished with a silver varq and date syrup!

# Alia Bhatt returning as goodwill ambassador of ALT EFF



Mumbai. Bollywood star Alia Bhatt is set to return as the goodwill ambassador for the All Living Things Environmental Film Festival (ALT EFF). Bhatt said she is thrilled that her production banner Eternal Sunshine Productions is partnering with the film

gala for its 2024 edition. “This festival is truly special—it celebrates films that uplift and showcase nature's resilience while reminding us of the importance of protecting our planet. Through powerful storytelling, ALT EFF allows us to see and feel the real impact of environmental change,” the 31-year-old actor said in a statement. Filmmaker Richie Mehta, who recently directed the series "Poacher" that was produced by Bhatt's company, will join the actor in championing the festival's mission.

With over 100 screenings planned across India, the 2024 edition of ALT EFF will feature an engaging lineup of films, workshops, and panel discussions aimed at fostering global dialogue on urgent environmental issues. Festival Director Kunal Khanna hailed Bhatt as a "remarkable artist" who is also passionate about the environment. "Her creative endeavours through Eternal Sunshine exemplify the transformative power of storytelling in addressing pressing global challenges. "With Alia and Richie Mehta as our ambassadors, ALT EFF is uniquely positioned to amplify the voices of filmmakers who seek to use impact film and storytelling to drive environmental action," he added.

## 'The Mask' director Chuck Russell wants to work with SRK, Aamir; calls 'RRR' a cool film

Hollywood filmmaker Chuck Russell, best known for Hollywood hits such as "The Mask" and "The Scorpion King", has already tried his hand at directing a Hindi film and he now aspires to collaborate with Bollywood superstars Aamir Khan and Shah Rukh Khan. Russell ventured into Indian cinema with the 2019 film "Jungle", starring Vidyut Jammwal and Akshay Oberoi. "I've been wanting to work with Aamir Khan before. He knows it, I've visited him. And Shah Rukh Khan. I got

to work with Akshay (Oberoi) and my cast in 'Jungle' was terrific. "I like working with different cultures and talent that is new to me. So, all of India is new to me. I'm going to learn something new working with Indian actors," Russell told PTI in an interview. The director was speaking on the sidelines of a masterclass at Film Bazaar 2024, which runs parallel to the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) here. Asked what was the recent Indian film he watched, Russell said, "I liked 'RRR', it was really cool."

The 66-year-old also walked down memory lane on the sets of 1994's "The Mask". The superhero comedy, which shot Jim Carrey and Cameron Diaz to international fame, completed 30 years of release in July. Adapted from a popular American comic, "The Mask" starred Carrey as Stanley Ipkiss, an ordinary man who finds a magical wooden mask that transforms him into the titular green-faced troublemaker who can cartoonishly alter himself and his surroundings at will. One of his strongest memories

from "The Mask" shoot, Russell said, was when the team filmed the "Cuban Pete" dance number with Carrey, who also sang the song for the movie. The director said Carrey had the flu the night they had to shoot the sequence but the actor powered through like a true professional. "We were in the Backlot, I think it was Warner Bros, which was fun for me... Working with the studio was a great honour. We had to do this dance number and Jim was sick. He had the flu, he was throwing up. I was like 'Oh my god.

# Rekindle your spirit with silence

“The words that do not rattle the minds of people and which is truth; truth which is benevolent and which is pleasant, those type of words are to be spoken. That is called the penance of speech”

Keeping silence is very useful. It purifies our speech. Deep silence is the mother of creativity. No creativity can come out of one who is too busy, worried, over-ambitious or lethargic. There is no need to maintain silence in our daily routine but there is also no need to speak too much. If you maintain some silence, you will think before you speak. If you keep talking, you yourself will not understand what you are saying.

Have you ever observed the impact of your speech on others? Often we do not bother to notice this, we go on blabbering. We just want to say all that we want to say and become free. No, you must see what impact your speech has on others. There is a beautiful couplet in the Bhagavad Gita which says, “The words that do not rattle the minds of people and which is truth; truth which is benevolent and

which is pleasant, those type of words are to be spoken. That is called the penance of speech.”

Tapas (penance) for the speech is to speak only those words that do not rattle the minds of others. Krishna was the most skillful because his silence was so deep. Sometimes we think we are right and, perhaps, we are right. You may be speaking the truth, it may be benevolent, it may be good for the other person as well but if it is not pleasant and it is rattling the other person's mind then it is not complete. This is not an easy thing to do. It requires skill — not to rattle anyone's mind or give them pain. So speak words that are pleasant, true and benevolent but ensure that you don't speak pleasing lies. Don't crush the minds and hearts of others with your unpleasant words. Now how do we do this? You may say, “I don't intend to hurt anybody but hurtful words just fly out of my mouth. What do I do?”

Silence and meditation awaken our potential and abilities. That is why every one should remain silent and meditate for a while.



Yog and Vedanta have been referred to as the highest forms of knowledge and that is what they are. The inner space or your inner form can be experienced through them. Your brain benefits so much from this. Depending on the situation, we must accept whatever is happening around us. If we are sitting in meditation and a phone is ringing somewhere, we must accept it instead of getting irritated. Take it as background music. As Shri Krishna says in the Bhagavad Gita, as long as something or the other is occupying our mind, we cannot go into

meditation. So surrender your sankalpa (intention) during meditation. Afterwards, when you are working on something, put everything into it. We do the opposite; during meditation we keep thinking about all we have to do and while working we think that God will look after everything. Put everything into any work you do.

Take a sankalpa (intention) about what you want in the future. Then form a plan accordingly. Worry drains you of energy and strength. You don't gain anything. You acquire inner strength through silence. In spite of

all that, if it comes, if it happens then you can't do anything about it, then just ask for forgiveness. When you are getting into silence ask for forgiveness — “By my thought, word or deed if I have done anything or caused any hurt to someone, may I be forgiven.” That completely uplifts us from being bogged down.

Some questions can be answered only in silence. It is the goal of all answers. If an answer does not silence the mind it is “no” answer. Thoughts are not the goal in themselves. Their goal is silence. Deep silence is the mother or source of creativity. When the body, mind and spirit are in tune with each other, then creativity happens. When you are tired, exhausted, stressed, over-ambitious or lethargic, when you are not in touch with yourself, your creativity and talents are stifled. When feverishness clogs your head, your mind is not clear; poetry cannot dawn, no creative thought will come. Meditation and yoga can clear your mind and kindle skills and creativity in you. It puts you in touch with the space of silence

within you and becomes an unending well-spring of creativity. It relieves you of stress and strain, strengthens your nervous system and mind, releases toxins, makes you more capable and enhances you in every way. The easy way to silence the thoughts is to arouse feelings. For through feelings only peace, joy and love dawn. And they are all your very nature.

To the question, “Who am I?” the only relevant answer is silence. You need to discard all answers in words, including “I am Nothing” or “I am the Cosmic Self” or “I am the Self” — and just stick to the question “Who am I?” All other answers are just thoughts. Thoughts can never be complete. Only silence is complete. And spirituality is a harmonious blend of outer silence and inner celebration; and inner silence and outer celebration. When you ask the question, “Who am I?” you get no answer, there is silence. That is the real answer. This solidified silence is wisdom, is knowledge. You are solidified silence, awareness.