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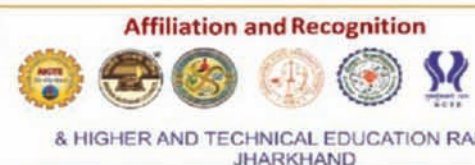
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(नोट : सोना 22 कैरेट प्रति ग्राम)


BRIEF NEWS

आज दिखेगा सैन्य शक्ति
और विरासत का संगम

NEW DELHI : रविवार को कर्तव्य पथ पर भारत 76वें गणतंत्र दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में अपनी नये शक्ति और समृद्ध सांस्कृतिक विरासत का प्रदर्शन करने के अलावा विरासत और विकास का प्रतीकात्मक संगम प्रदर्शित करेगा।

राष्ट्र सविधान के लागू होने का प्लेटिनम जुबिली भी 26 जनवरी को मनाएगा। विभिन्न राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों की 16 झांकियाँ और केंद्रीय मंत्रालयों, विभागों और संगठनों की 15 झांकियाँ प्रदर्शित की जाएंगी।

चुनाव में उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन के लिए मिला राष्ट्रीय सम्मान

बेस्ट परफॉर्मिंग स्टेट बना अपना झारखंड

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI :

निर्वाचन को झारखंड राज्य को पहली बार निर्वाचन में उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन के लिए 'बेस्ट परफॉर्मिंग स्टेट' का राष्ट्रीय सम्मान प्राप्त हुआ। यह सम्मान राज्य के मुख्य निर्वाचन प्रधिकारिकारी के. रवि कुमार को राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मु द्वारा राष्ट्रीय मतदाता दिवस के अवसर पर दिया गया। यह सम्मान समारोह नई दिल्ली के जोरावर ऑडिटोरियम मानेकशा सेंटर में आयोजित हुआ। राष्ट्रपति ने इस दौरान कहा कि प्रबुद्ध मतदाता लोकतंत्र को मजबूत बनाते हैं। उन्होंने मतदाताओं से अपील की कि वे अपने मताधिकार का प्रयोग करके समय और प्रलोभन से ऊपर उठें। राष्ट्रपति ने चुनाव आयोग की 75 वर्ष की सेवा को सराहा, जिसमें 18 लोकसभा और 400 से अधिक विधानसभा चुनाव सफलतापूर्वक आयोजित किए गए हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत का लोकतंत्र दुनिया का सबसे पुराना, विशाल, विविधतापूर्ण और समावेशी है। राष्ट्रपति ने चुनाव आयोग द्वारा किए गए समावेशी प्रयासों की सराहना की, जिसमें विशेष रूप से 85 वर्ष से अधिक आयु के वरिष्ठ नागरिकों, दिव्यांग और दूरदर्शन के क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले मतदाताओं के लिए सुविधाएं शामिल हैं। राष्ट्रपति ने युवाओं को मतदाता पहचान पत्र भी वितरित किए और सीईओ राजीव कुमार से इंडिया वोट्स 2024 : ए सागा ऑफ डेमोक्रेसी पुस्तक की पहली प्रति प्राप्त की।

लोस-विस चुनावों के निष्पक्ष और शांतिपूर्ण आयोजन का परिणाम, सभी चेकपोस्टों को **सीसीटीवी** से किया गया था लैस

- राष्ट्रीय मतदाता दिवस पर राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने राज्य के सीईओ के . रवि कुमार को किया सम्मानित
- मतदान केंद्रों पर की गई थी वेबकास्टिंग की मुकम्मल व्यवस्था सोशल मीडिया पर चलाया गया था मतदाता जागरूकता अभियान



65 करोड़ मतदाताओं की रही थी भागीदारी

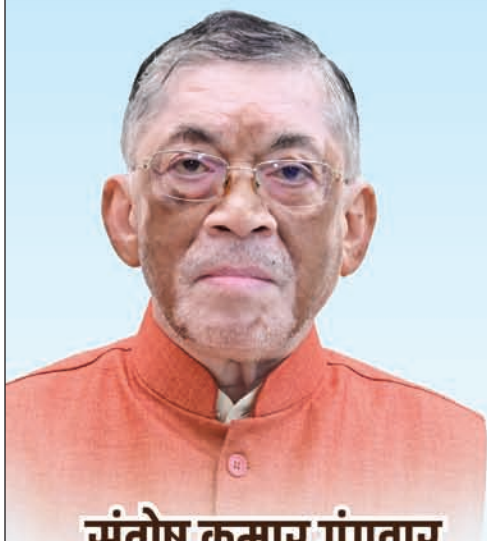
राष्ट्रपति ने 2024 के लोकसभा चुनाव में देशभर में 65 करोड़ मतदाताओं की भागीदारी की सराहना की और चुनाव आयोग को लगातार 66 परिश्रत से अधिक मतदान के लिए बधाई दी। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत का लोकतंत्र आधुनिक दुनिया के लिए एक अनूठा उदाहरण है। दुनिया के कई देश हमारी चुनाव प्रणाली और प्रबंधन से सीख ले रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि 2024 के लोकसभा चुनाव में देशभर में 10 लाख से अधिक मतदान केंद्रों पर सुरक्षाकर्मियों, पोलिंग अधिकारी तथा कर्मचारियों सहित लगभग डेढ़ करोड़ लोगों ने सक्रिय भागीदारी निभाई।

मतदाता सूची पुनरीक्षण पर विशेष फोकस

झारखंड में चुनावी कार्यों के दौरान कई नवाचार किए गए थे। मतदाता सुची पुनरीक्षण पर विशेष फोकस किया गया, जिसमें बीएलओ ने हर घर का सत्यापन किया और पीवीटीजी (विशेष रूप से कमजोर जनजातीय समूह) मतदाताओं के लिए विशेष अभियान चलाया।

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बड़े गर्व के साथ लोकतंत्र के उत्सव को मनाने का यह अवसर है। भारत का लोकतंत्र भारत का गणतांत्रिक अतीत बहुत ही समृद्ध रहा है।

आइए, गणतंत्र दिवस के शुभ अवसर पर हम संविधान में निहित आदर्शों और मूल्यों के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता सुनिश्चित कर देश एवं लोकतंत्र की प्रगति में योगदान दें।

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श्री श्याम मंदिर में श्रद्धालुओं ने मनाया कायदेशरी उत्सव

RANCHI : शनिवार को अयेसन पथ स्थित श्री श्याम मंदिर में कायदेशरी उत्सव मनाया गया। इस दौरान श्री श्याम प्रभु को नवीन वस्त्र पहनाकर, स्वर्ण आभूषणों से अलंकृत किया गया। उनके साथ बजरंगबली और शिव परिवार का भी विशेष श्रृंगार किया गया। भक्तों ने श्री श्याम प्रभु के चरणारविंदों के बीच पावन ज्योत प्रज्वलित कर आहुति दानों। इस अवसर पर श्री श्याम मंडल के सदस्यों द्वारा संगीतमय संकीर्तन का आयोजन किया गया। श्याम प्रभु की विभिन्न मिष्ठान, फल और रबड़ी का भोग अर्पित किया गया। कार्यक्रम का समापन महाअरारी और प्रसाद वितरण के साथ हुआ। आयोजन को सफल बनाने में कई सदस्यों का योगदान रहा।

न केवल उसका सैवैधानिक अधिकार है, बल्कि यह एक महत्वपूर्ण कर्तव्य भी है। उन्होंने भारत निर्वाचन आयोग के 75 वर्षों के सफल संचालन का उल्लेख करते हुए कहा कि आयोग का योगदान लोकतंत्र को सशक्त बनाने में अभूतपूर्व रहा है। राज्यपाल ने झारखंड की जनता से आग्रह किया कि वे जाति, धर्म, भाषा या प्रलोभन से ऊपर उठकर पूरी विवेक के साथ मतदान करें। इस वर्ष राष्ट्रीय मतदाता दिवस का थीम 'वोट जैसा कुछ नहीं, वोट जरूर डालेंगे हम' को प्रेरक और जागरूकता बढ़ाने वाला बनाते हुए राज्यपाल ने युवाओं से विशेष रूप से अपील की कि वे 18 वर्ष की आयु पूरी करते ही मतदाता सूची में अपना नाम दर्ज कराने। साथ ही लोकतंत्र को मजबूत बनाने में अपनी भागीदारी संजितवत् करें। इसके अतिरिक्त सुस्थायी व्यवस्था और शांतिपूर्ण चुनाव संचालन में योगदान देने वाले पुलिस अधिकारियों को भी राज्यपाल ने सम्मानित किया।

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Mob. : 9308561563

एनएमओएसडी से ग्रथित मरीज का हुआ इलाज

RANCHI : पारस हॉस्पिटल, एचईसी में 31 वर्षीय पप्पू कुमार का सफल इलाज किया गया। वह न्यूरोमाइलाइटिस ऑप्टिका स्पेक्ट्रम डिसऑर्डर (एनएमओएसडी) से पीड़ित था और दोनों आंखों से दिखाई नहीं दे रहा था। न्यूरोलॉजि विभाग के डॉ. संजीव कुमार शर्मा ने उनका इलाज किया। मरीज की आंखों में पूरी तरह से अंधापन था और वह चलने में भी असमर्थ था। मरीज का इलाज किया और प्लाज्मा एक्सचेंज के माध्यम से दिया गया, जिसके बाद उसकी आंखों की रोशनी में सुधार हुआ। अब वह सामान्य जीवन जीने में सक्षम है। डॉ. संजीव ने बताया कि पारस हॉस्पिटल में 15 से अधिक मरीजों का प्लाज्मा एक्सचेंज किया गया है और सभी में सकारात्मक परिणाम देखने को मिले हैं। हॉस्पिटल के मार्केटिंग हेड मानस लाभ ने कहा कि इस इलाज से गंभीर बीमारियों का उपचार संभव हो रहा है, जिससे झारखंड सहित अन्य राज्य के लोग लाभान्वित हो रहे हैं।

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI :

गणतंत्र दिवस पर मोहराबादी सहित तैरान में 1000 पुलिसकर्मियों को तैरान किया गया है। इसमें रैपिड एक्शन पुलिस (राप), इको, जैप, जेआइआरबी जिला बल, पुलिस के जवान और पदाधिकारी शामिल हैं। व्रज वाहन और वाटर केनन को भी तैरान किया गया है। इसके अलावा सांढे लिबास में स्पेशल ब्रांच के पुलिसकर्मियों भी शामिल रहेंगे। इतना ही नहीं मोहराबादी मैदान के आसपास सुरक्षा के लिहाज से ड्रोन कैमरा द्वारा भी निगरानी की जाएगी। इसके अलावा विभिन्न थाना क्षेत्रों में थाना प्रभारियों को गश्त तेज करने का आदेश दिया गया है। गणतंत्र दिवस समारोह मोहराबादी मैदान में मनाया जाएगा। यह समारोह सुबह नौ बजे से राज्यपाल द्वारा इंडोत्तोलन किए जाने से शुरू होगा। समारोह को लेकर राजधानी की ट्रैफिक व्यवस्था में बदलाव किया गया है। इसके तहत बड़े वाहनों की नौ इंदो का समय सुबह छह बजे से 10 बजे रात्रि तक रहेगा। कर्क से आने वाले वाहन बोडोया तक, गुमला सिमडेगा से आने वाले वाहन कटहल मोड़ तक, जमशेदपुर से आने वाले वाहन सदबहार चौक, चाईबासा चौक से आने वाले वाहन बिरसा चौक तक, गुमला-सिमडेगा से आने वाले वाहन आईटीआई बस स्टैंड तक, पतरातू से आने वाले वाहन लॉ यूनिवर्सिटी तक, कोकर और बरियातू आने वाले वाहन बूटी मोड़ तक और तिलता चौक से पिरका मोड़ तक आने वाले वाहन पंडरा बाजार तक ही आ सकेंगे।

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI :

गणतंत्र दिवस पर मोहराबादी सहित तैरान में 1000 पुलिसकर्मियों को तैरान किया गया है। इसमें रैपिड एक्शन पुलिस (राप), इको, जैप, जेआइआरबी जिला बल, पुलिस के जवान और पदाधिकारी शामिल हैं। व्रज वाहन और वाटर केनन को भी तैरान किया गया है। इसके अलावा सांढे लिबास में स्पेशल ब्रांच के पुलिसकर्मियों भी शामिल रहेंगे। इतना ही नहीं मोहराबादी मैदान के आसपास सुरक्षा के लिहाज से ड्रोन कैमरा द्वारा भी निगरानी की जाएगी। इसके अलावा विभिन्न थाना क्षेत्रों में थाना प्रभारियों को गश्त तेज करने का आदेश दिया गया है। गणतंत्र दिवस समारोह मोहराबादी मैदान में मनाया जाएगा। यह समारोह सुबह नौ बजे से राज्यपाल द्वारा इंडोत्तोलन किए जाने से शुरू होगा। समारोह को लेकर राजधानी की ट्रैफिक व्यवस्था में बदलाव किया गया है। इसके तहत बड़े वाहनों की नौ इंदो का समय सुबह छह बजे से 10 बजे रात्रि तक रहेगा। कर्क से आने वाले वाहन बोडोया तक, गुमला सिमडेगा से आने वाले वाहन कटहल मोड़ तक, जमशेदपुर से आने वाले वाहन सदबहार चौक, चाईबासा चौक से आने वाले वाहन बिरसा चौक तक, गुमला-सिमडेगा से आने वाले वाहन आईटीआई बस स्टैंड तक, पतरातू से आने वाले वाहन लॉ यूनिवर्सिटी तक, कोकर और बरियातू आने वाले वाहन बूटी मोड़ तक और तिलता चौक से पिरका मोड़ तक आने वाले वाहन पंडरा बाजार तक ही आ सकेंगे।

CCCL
Fueling Sustainable Growth

28 जनवरी, 2025

76वें गणतंत्र दिवस
की हार्दिक
शुभकामनाएँ

सेन्द्रल कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड

(कोल इण्डिया लिमिटेड की एक अनुषंगी कम्पनी)
दरभंगा हाउस, राँची - 834001 (झारखण्ड)

गणतंत्र दिवस के
शुभ अवसर पर
समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

नौगतंत्र दिवस के शुभ अवसर पर
सभसत देशवासियों को
हादिक शुभकामनाएं



रणधीर कुमार
प्रबंधक, धान अधिप्राप्ति केंद्र
कांके प्रखंड

मेघनंतर दिवस के शुभ अवसर पर
समस्त देशवासियों को
हादिक शुभकामनाएं



वसीम अकरम
सदर अंजुमन फलाहुल मुस्लिमीन
ऊपर कोनकी
सह युवा नेता, झामुमो



अर्जुन यादव
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शंकर दुबे

भाजपा कार्यकर्ता सह अध्यक्ष
श्री चैती दुर्गा पूजा महासमिति



DR. BHAGYASHREE KAR

Director
Brain Dynamics
Ranchi

Clinical Psychologist
Sadar Hospital
Chaibasa

A portrait of a man with dark hair, wearing a white shirt and a blue vest, smiling. He is positioned in the center. Behind him, two Indian national flags are visible, waving. The background is a light, warm-toned gradient.

SHIHAN SUNIL KISPOTTA

CHAIRMAN : Tribes and Minorities Development Commission KIO

JOINT SECRETARY : East India Karate Association

STATE REPRESENTATIVE : Seiko Kai Jharkhand

NATIONAL SECRETARY : Human Rights

बारूदी धुएं में कराह रही मानवता के कल्याण के लिए उद्बोध

विश्व संत्रस्त है। अनेक देश युद्ध की विभीषिका में हैं। मानवता कराह रही है। रित्रयों, वृद्धों, मासुम बच्चों की लाशें गिनती से बाहर हैं। पश्चिम में बारूद ही बारूद है। भारत के पड़ोस में भी बारूदी धुएं से वातावरण दूषित है। मनुष्य ही मनुष्य का दुश्मन बनकर रक्त पिपासु हो गया है। किसी देश का नाम लें यह जरूरी नहीं, किंतु दृश्य भयावह हैं। कई वर्षों से असमान में तोप, रॉकेट और सुपरसोनिक युद्ध विमान कोहराम मचाए हुए हैं। ऐसे माहौल में भारत की सनातन संस्कृति अपने सृष्टि पर्व के माध्यम से विश्व के कल्याण का उद्बोध कर रही है। गंगा, यमुना और सरस्वती के पवित्र त्रिवेणी तट पर प्रयागराज में करोड़ों लोग आस्था की डुबकी लगा चुके हैं। यह अद्भुत है। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी का विश्वगुरु भारत का सपना साकार हो रहा है। प्रयाग की धरती से भारत विश्व को मानवता और लोक कल्याण का संदेश दे रहा है। भारत की संस्कृति, अध्यात्म और आस्था के आगे विश्व नतमस्तक है। धरती का हर कोना प्रयागराज से आकर्षित है। सभी यहां आना चाहते हैं। सभी पवित्र त्रिवेणी में डुबकी भी लगाना चाहते हैं। यह वास्तव में विश्व के अन्वेषकों और चिंतनशील शोधार्थियों के लिए सौंत्तक जैसा है। ऐसा क्यों है, यह विचारणीय है। अभी कुछ ही दिन हुए, 26 दिसंबर 2024 को द हिंदू ने हिंसाग्रस्त विश्व के हालात पर रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित की थी। इस रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि वर्ष 2024 में कई ऐसे अंतरराष्ट्रीय संघर्ष हुए, जिन्होंने भू-राजनीतिक परिदृश्य और वैश्विक स्थिरता को चुनौती दी। यूक्रेन में चल रहे युद्ध से लेकर मध्य पूर्व में बढ़ते तनाव तक, इस वर्ष गठबंधनों में बदलाव और विनाशकारी सैन्य अभियान देखने को मिले। इन संकटों का प्रभाव उनके तत्काल क्षेत्रों से कहीं आगे तक फैला, जिसने दुनिया भर में राजनयिक संबंधों और रणनीतिक प्राथमिकताओं को प्रभावित किया। रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि बीते वर्ष की शुरुआत रूस द्वारा यूक्रेन के विरुद्ध 2022 के युद्ध को जारी रखने के साथ हुई, जिसका उद्देश्य उत्तरी अटलांटिक संधि संगठन (नाटो) को अपनी सीमाओं की ओर बढ़ने से रोकना था। अक्टूबर 2023 में उग्रवादी समूह हमास ने गाजा में हमला किया, जिसमें 1000 से अधिक लोग मारे गए और फिलिस्तीन के विरुद्ध इजरायल की ओर से बड़े पैमाने पर जवाबी कार्रवाई की गई। जैसे-जैसे युद्ध आगे बढ़ा, इजरायल की लड़ाई ईरानी प्रॉक्सि के खिलाफ अन्य क्षेत्रों में भी फैल गई, जिनमें हमास भी शामिल है। यमन में हूती विद्रोहियों ने जहाजों और अन्य जहाजों को रोका और उन पर हमला किया जिन्हें उन्होंने इजरायल की सहायता करने वाला बताया। लेबनान में हिज्बुल्लाह के आतंकवादियों ने सीमा पर इजरायल के साथ गोलीबारी की। सितंबर में इजरायल ने हिज्बुल्लाह के पेजिंग उपकरणों को निशाना बनाया, जिससे दर्जनों लोग मारे गए और सैकड़ों लोग घायल हो गए। नवंबर में एक युद्धविराम समझौते ने क्षेत्रीय तनाव को कम कर दिया। हालांकि, सीरियाई विद्रोहियों ने ईरान समर्थित असद सरकार के खिलाफ तेज हमले शुरू कर दिए और उनकी सरकार को गिरा दिया, जिससे हिंसा का एक नया दौर शुरू हो गया। अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति चुनाव में डोनाल्ड ट्रंप की जीत के साथ ही यूक्रेन को अमेरिका से मिलने वाले समर्थन में बदलाव आने की संभावना बनी। इस बीच क्षेत्र में ईरानी प्रॉक्सि कमजोर हो गए हैं, जिससे इजरायल को अपनी क्षेत्रीय स्थिति को और मजबूत करने का मौका मिल गया है। सशस्त्र संघर्ष स्थान और घटना डेटा डेटाबेस हर संघर्ष घटना और उससे जुड़ी मौतों को रिकॉर्ड करता है। इस डेटा के आधार पर संघर्ष सूचकांक तैयार किया जाता है। सूचकांक प्रत्येक देश को चार मापदंडों के आधार पर रैंक करता है- घातकता (मृत्यु की संख्या), खतरा (नागरिकों के खिलाफ हिंसा की घटनाओं की संख्या), प्रसार (हिंसा कितनी व्यापक है) और विखंडन (गैर-राज्य सशस्त्र, संगठित समूहों की संख्या)। इन मापदंडों के आधार पर प्रत्येक देश को संघर्ष श्रेणी और रैंकिंग दी जाती है। 12 दिसंबर 2024 से पहले के 12 महीनों के लिए 10 देशों को चरम संघर्ष वाले देशों की श्रेणी में रखा गया है। ये हैं- फिलिस्तीन, म्यांमार, सीरिया, मैक्सिको, नाइजीरिया, बाजील, लेबनान, सूडान, केमरून और कोलंबिया। जैसे-जैसे 2024 खत्म होने को आ रहा था, नए और चल रहे युद्धों के कारण संघर्ष क्षेत्रों में मौतों में वृद्धि हो रही थी, जो 2025 के आरंभ में अभी बढ़ ही रही है। 2024 में एक जनवरी से 13 दिसंबर तक युद्धों, विस्फोटों, दूरस्थ हिंसा और नागरिकों के खिलाफ हिंसा में दो लाख से अधिक लोग मारे गए। इस मृत्यु दर का लगभग आधा हिस्सा मुख्य रूप से तीन देशों से आता है- यूक्रेन, फिलिस्तीन और म्यांमार। हालांकि, वास्तविक मौतों का आंकड़ा इससे कहीं ज्यादा है। पिछले वर्षों में अफगानिस्तान में संघर्ष से संबंधित मौतों का एक बड़ा हिस्सा रहा है, खासकर तालिबान द्वारा सरकार पर कब्जा करने से पहले। हालांकि, पिछले वर्षों में यूक्रेन और फिलिस्तीन में होने वाली मौतों ने मरने वालों की संख्या में एक बड़ा हिस्सा बना लिया है।

ANALYSIS



डॉ. जंग बहादुर पाण्डेय

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सरकार की तरफ से आम जनता का ध्यान रखा ही जाना चाहिए, लेकिन इसके लिए भुक्त की योजना की जगह अन्य तरीके अपनाए जाएं तो बेहतर होगा। नही तो एक दिन यही योजनाएं विकास योजनाएं न होकर विनाशकारी मार्ग तैयार कर सकती हैं। दिल्ली में एक दशक पहले भाजपा और कांग्रेस के बीच ही चुनावी लड़ाई होती रही थी, लेकिन कांग्रेस सरकार के भ्रष्टाचार के विरोध में एक धूमकेतु की तरह अरविंद केजरीवाल की आम आदमी पार्टी उमरी, जिसने लोक लुभावने वादे कर आम जनता का ध्पार फाड़ समर्थन प्राप्त करके दिल्ली के सिंहासन को तख्ती से ले लिया। मौजूदा चुनाव में एकबार फिर बहुकोणीय मुकाबला होने की तसवीर बन रही है। आम आदमी पार्टी साथी दलों को हाथ छुड़ा कर अकेले ही चुनावी मैदान में उतरी है। लेकिन, इसकी सबसे बड़ी परेशानी यह है कि उसके नेता अरविंद केजरीवाल पर भ्रष्टाचार के आरोप हैं। ऐसा कहना भी समुचित होगा कि केजरीवाल की कथनी और करनी में जमीन-आसमान का अंतर है। एक समय सुविधाओं को त्याग कर राजनीति करने की कसम खाने

संविधान का निर्माण : गणतंत्र की पहचान

महाप्रलय की प्रतिध्वनियों में भी जो जनता सोती है, यह छब्बीस जनवरी आज उनको दे रही चुनौती है। नहीं जगे तो नहीं जगे, ये किस्मत पर रोने वाले। नहीं जगे तो नहीं जगे, घर फूंक हवन करने वाले। जिन बेशर्मा पर शर्मिंदा शर्म स्वयं भी होती है, यह छब्बीस जनवरी आज उनको दे रही चुनौती है।

—डॉ. शिवमंगल सिंह सुमन

26 जनवरी 1950 जिसे हम गणतंत्र दिवस के नाम से जानते हैं, भारतीय इतिहास का सर्वोच्चल पृष्ठ है। आज के दिन शताब्दियों की दस्तानें टूटी थी और पराधीनता की पिचाशिन पूतना का वध हुआ था। आज के ही दिन हमारा देश सर्व प्रभुत्व संपन्न लोकतंत्रात्मक गणतंत्र हुआ था। आज के ही दिन हमारा अपना संविधान लागू हुआ था। आज के ही दिन राजतंत्र की शिर्कजा टूटी थी और प्रजातंत्र का पौधा लहराया था। आज के ही दिन मानव-मानव के मध्य की दुर्भेद्य दीवार ध्वस्त हुई थी और समान अधिकार पाकर सीना तानकर हम कह उठे थे—

मेरा देश देश का मैं, देश मेरा जीवन प्राण। मेरा सम्मान मेरे देश की बड़ाई में।

—कविवर गिरधर शर्मा

देश आज 76वां गणतंत्र दिवस मना रहा है और गणतंत्र दिवस इसलिए मनाया जाता है, क्योंकि इस दिन भारत गणतंत्र देश बना था। गणतंत्र दिवस के दिन भारत का संविधान लागू हुआ था, जबकि स्वतंत्रता दिवस के दिन भारत को अंग्रेजों की लंबी गुलामी से मुक्ति मिली थी। इसलिए हर वर्ष 15 अगस्त को स्वतन्त्रता दिवस और 26 जनवरी को गणतन्त्र दिवस मनाया जाता है। भारत के स्वतंत्र हो जाने के पश्चात संविधान सभा की घोषणा हुई और इसने अपना कार्य 9 दिसंबर 1947 से आरंभ कर दिया। संविधान सभा के सदस्य भारत के राज्यों की सभाओं के निर्वाचित सदस्यों द्वारा चुने गए थे। डॉ. राजेंद्र प्रसाद, सरदार बल्लभ भाई पटेल, बाबा साहेब भीमराव अंबेडकर, जवाहरलाल नेहरू, सच्चिदानंद सिन्हा, मौलाना अबुल कलाम आजाद आदि इस

संविधान सभा के प्रमुख सदस्य थे।

संविधान निर्माण में कुल 22 समितियां थीं, जिसमें प्रारूप समिति (ड्राफ्टिंग कमेटी) सबसे प्रमुख एवं महत्वपूर्ण समिति थी। इस समिति के अध्यक्ष भीमराव अंबेडकर थे और इस समिति का कार्य संपूर्ण संविधान लिखना या निर्माण करना था। प्रारूप समिति पर बतौर कानून मंत्री अंबेडकर के पास जब हस्ताक्षर हेतु भेजा गया था, तो अंबेडकर ने प्रारूप पर हस्ताक्षर करने से यह कहकर तीन बार वापस कर दिया था कि जब तक इस संविधान में आरक्षण का प्रावधान नहीं किया जाएगा, तब तक मैं इस प्रारूप पर हस्ताक्षर नहीं करूंगा। उस समय सरदार पटेल ने कहा था कि अगर संविधान में आरक्षण का प्रावधान किया गया तो आने वाले समय में देश की स्थिति बड़ी ही भयावह हो जाएगी। तब उस पर अंबेडकर ने कहा कि केवल और केवल दस वर्षों के लिए ही आरक्षण का प्रावधान किया जाए और दस वर्ष के बाद आरक्षण स्वतः ही समाप्त हो जाएगा, तो फिर केवल और केवल दस वर्ष हेतु आरक्षण का प्रावधान किया गया। तब जाकर अंबेडकर ने संविधान प्रारूप पर हस्ताक्षर किए थे, तब फिर अंबेडकर संविधान के निमाता कैसे हुए। उसके बाद सरकारें आती गईं और दस-दस वर्ष के लिए आरक्षण बढ़ाती गईं, जो आज भी बदस्तूर जारी है, फिर संविधान प्रारूप समिति के अध्यक्ष डॉ. राजेंद्र प्रसाद जी और उसमें विशेष रूप से सरदार पटेल और अन्य लोगों ने मिलकर 2 वर्ष, 11 माह, 18 दिन में भारतीय संविधान का निर्माण किया और तब संविधान सभा के अध्यक्ष डॉ. राजेंद्र प्रसाद को 26 नवंबर 1949 को भारत का संविधान सौंप दिया था, इसलिए 26 नवंबर भारतीय संविधान दिवस के रूप में प्रति वर्ष मनाया जाता है। संविधान सभा के कार्यवाहक अध्यक्ष सच्चिदानंद सिन्हा चुने गए थे। बाद में राजेंद्र प्रसाद स्थायी अध्यक्ष बनाए गए। अंबेडकर की देखरेख में संविधान तैयार किया गया। वे कभी भी संविधान निमाता नहीं रहे। संविधान जब बनकर तैयार हुआ तो पंडित जवाहरलाल

नेहरू के विशेष अनुरोध पर जिस शख्स ने अपने हाथों से इटालिक लिपि में संविधान को लिखा, उसका नाम था प्रेम बिहारी नारायण रायचौदा। उन्होंने इस शर्त पर लिखा कि प्रत्येक पृष्ठ पर अपना नाम लिखेंगे और अंतिम पृष्ठ पर अपने दादा जी का नाम अंकित करेंगे, हालांकि इस लेखन के लिए उन्होंने कोई मेहनताना नहीं लिया। तैयार संविधान सच्चिदानंद सिन्हा के हस्ताक्षर के लिए पटना लाया गया था, क्योंकि अस्वस्थता के कारण वह दिल्ली जाने की स्थिति में नहीं थे।

संविधान सभा ने संविधान निर्माण के लिए कुल 114 दिन बैठकें कीं। इसकी बैठकों में प्रेस और जनता को भाग लेने की स्वतंत्रता थी। अनेक सुधारों और बदलावों के पश्चात सभा के 308 सदस्यों ने 24 जनवरी 1950 को संविधान की दो हस्तलिखित कॉपियों पर हस्ताक्षर किए। इसके दो दिन पश्चात संविधान 26 जनवरी 1950 को यह देश भर में लागू हो गया और उसी दिन से भारत गणतंत्र घोषित हो गया।

26 जनवरी का महत्व बनाए रखने के लिए इसी दिन संविधान निर्मात्री सभा (कांस्टीट्यूटेंट असेंबली) द्वारा स्वीकृत संविधान में भारत के गणतंत्र स्वरूप को मान्यता प्रदान की गई। जैसा कि हम सभी जानते हैं कि 15 अगस्त 1947 को अपना देश हजारों देशभक्तों के बलिदान के पश्चात अंग्रेजों की गुलामी (अंग्रेजों के शासन) से मुक्त हुआ था। इसके बाद 26 जनवरी 1950 को अपने देश में भारतीय शासन और कानून व्यवस्था लागू हुई। गणतंत्र शब्द दो के योग से बना है गण अर्थात समूह (जनता जनार्दन) और तंत्र अर्थात शासन (प्रशासन) गणतंत्र का तात्पर्य जहां राष्ट्राध्यक्ष जनता द्वारा चुना हुआ प्रतिनिधि हो। राष्ट्राध्यक्ष वंशानुगत नहीं, जनतानुगत हो। इंग्लैंड में प्रजातंत्र तो है, लेकिन गणतंत्र नहीं है, क्योंकि वहां का राष्ट्राध्यक्ष वंशानुगत राजा या रानी या उनका कोई वारिस होता है। अतः इंग्लैंड में राजतंत्रात्मक प्रजातंत्र है। भारत का राष्ट्राध्यक्ष वंशानुगत नहीं, जनता का

प्रतिनिधि होता है, अतः भारत में गणतंत्रात्मक प्रजातंत्र है। भारत विश्व का सबसे बड़ा प्रजातंत्रात्मक गणतंत्र है। भारत के प्रथम राष्ट्रपति राजेंद्र प्रसाद थे और वर्तमान राष्ट्रपति श्रीमती द्रौपदी मुर्मू हैं।

इस स्वतंत्रता को पाने में अपने देश की हजारों माताओं की गोद सुनी हो गई थी, हजारों बहनों-बेटियों की मांग का सिंदूर मिट गया था, तब कहीं इस महान बलिदान के पश्चात यह स्वतंत्र हो सका था। पहले हमने लाखों का बलिदान देकर स्वतंत्रता पाई है, लेकिन अब भारत को पुनः परम वैभव की ओर ले जाने के लिए हमें देश के गद्दारों को पहचान कर सावधान होना होगा तथा देश के लिए जीना होगा और अपना योगदान देना होगा। 26 जनवरी गणतंत्र दिवस एक राष्ट्रीय पर्व की तरह है। यह हमारी स्वतंत्रता की स्वर्णिम वर्षगांठ है। यह हमारी प्रतिज्ञाओं और तपस्याओं का स्मृति दिवस है। यह हमारे अमर शहीदों का तर्पण त्योहार है। यह किसी जाति, वर्ग, वर्ण, धर्म या संप्रदाय का पर्व नहीं है। होली, दीपावली, नागपंचमी, रक्षाबंधन, दशहरा यदि हिंदुओं के प्रिय पर्व हैं, तो ईद, बकरीद, मुहर्रम मुसलमानों के। क्रिसमस, ईस्टर यदि इसाइयों के पर्व हैं, तो ओणम केरलवासियों का किंतु, गणतंत्र दिवस एक ऐसा पर्व है ,जो हिमालय के हिम मंडित शिखरों से मातृचरण पखारने वाली कन्याकुमारी की उल्कट लहरों तक, एलिफंटा की गुफाओं से असम की दुर्गम पहाड़ियों तक बिना अंतर का भेद-भाव के धूमधाम से मनाया जाता है। यही वह महापर्व है, जिसमें अखिल भारत की अंतरात्मा का सितार आनंदमयी रागिनी में बज उठता है। इस अक्सर पर मैं सभी देशवासियों को अपनी शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ—

मिले सदा शुभ हर्ष आपको,
नहीं कभी आए अपकर्म।
सतत सुधा साहित्य प्रवाहित,
लिखे लेखनी यश उत्कर्ष।

सर्दियों में हाथों की रुखी त्वचा की देखभाल

मौसम कोई भी हो लेकिन हाथ दिन-रात काम करते हैं। हाथों की त्वचा मौसम की मार, धूल, साबुन, पानी को लगातार सहते हुए रूखी और बेजान हो जाती है। सर्दियों में यह समस्या सबसे ज्यादा गंभीर रूप धारण कर लेती है। गृहणी और कामकाजी दोनों महिलाओं के हाथ रोजाना के कामकाज के दौरान बार-बार साबुन और डिटजेंट के संपर्क में आते हैं। सर्दियों में हम जहां शरीर के बाकी हिस्सों को गर्म कपड़े, स्वेटर, शॉल आदि से ढक कर रखते हैं, लेकिन हमारे हाथ लश्तार मौसम की मार झेलते हैं। इससे हमारे हाथ लाल, खुरदरे, सूखे, बेजान और मुड़ाए दिखने लगते हैं। आप चाहें कामकाजी महिला हों या होम मेकर, आपके हाथ हर मौसम में सबसे ज्यादा खुले रहते हैं। इससे अन्य अंगों की बजाय हाथ सबसे ज्यादा सूखे होते हैं। सर्दियों में वातावरण में नमी और बर्फीली हवाओं से आपके हाथ शुष्क और खुरदरे हो जाते हैं। वातावरण में अचानक बदलाव से

हाथों की त्वचा प्रभावित होती है। सर्द ऋतु की तेज बर्फीली हवाओं से त्वचा शुष्क होने के साथ हाथों का फटना भी शुरू हो जाता है। ऐसे में सवाल उठता है की इस ठंडे मौसम में हाथों की बाहरी संवेदनशील त्वचा में जलन, खुजली, सूखापन, एक्जिमा, डस्टर्इटिस आदि बीमारियों को कैसे रोका जाए। मेरा मानना है कि साबुन, केमिकल, डिटजेंट और अल्कोहल आधारित सैनिटाइजर का हाथों पर बार-बार प्रयोग करने से हाथों की ऊपरी त्वचा में प्रोटीन को नुकसान पहुंचेगा, जिससे हाथ लाल, खुरदरे, बेजान और मुड़ाए दिखने लगते हैं। इनके ज्यादा प्रयोग से आपके हाथों में कट या घाव लग सकते हैं, जिससे बैक्टीरिया हमारी त्वचा में प्रवेश कर सकता है, इससे ह्यूएक्जिमाह जैसे रोग पर कन सकते हैं। आपके हाथों में झुनझुन का अहसास हो सकता है और त्वचा फफोलेदार और पीड़ादायक हो सकती है। वास्तव में हाथों की पिछली ओर की त्वचा काफी पतली होती है तथा इसमें तैलीय ग्रंथियों की

कमी रहती है, जिसकी वजह से हाथों में झुर्रियां पड़ जाती हैं। हमारे हाथों को बाहरी परत की त्वचा वॉटरप्रूफ बैरियर की तरह काम करती है। यह परत समाल कोशिकाओं से बनी होती है, जो त्वचा की सामान्य नमी बनाए रखते हुए त्वचा की बाहरी पदार्थों से रक्षा प्रदान करती है। जब हम हाथों को साबुन को झागया सैनिटाइजर से बार-बार धोते हैं, तो यह प्रकृतिक बैरियर टूट जाता है तथा हाथों की त्वचा को नुकसान पहुंचना शुरू हो जाता है। ऐसे में हाथों की त्वचा की रक्षा अनिवार्य है। सबसे पहले यह सुनिश्चित करें कि हाथ धोने के बाद उन्हें अच्छी तरह सूखने दें तथा हाथ सूखने के बाद ही हैंड क्रीम लगाएं। हाथों के अच्छी तरह सूखने से बैक्टीरिया और वायरस दोनों मर जाते हैं जबकि गीली त्वचा से इनके फैलने का खतरा बढ़ता है। इसके अलावा सिंगल यूज नैपकिन का प्रयोग करें, क्योंकि एक ही कपड़े से बार-बार हाथ पोछने से बैक्टीरिया के फैलने का खतरा बढ़ सकता है। हाथ सूखने के बाद त्वचा पर जैल

या खुशबू रहित हैंड क्रीम उपयोग में लाएं या आप मॉइस्चराइजिंग मारक भी अप्लाई कर सकते हैं। सर्दियों में शावर जेल या ग्लिसरीन युक्त साबुन का प्रयोग बेहतर होगा। सबसे पहले सुबह के स्नान के समय हाथों को आर्गैल तथा माइस्चराइज करने की शुरुआत करनी चाहिए। कच्चे दूध की मालिश हाथों को कोमल बनाए रखने में मददगार होती है। कच्चे दूध को निकाल कर फ्रिज में रख लीजिए और जब भी समय मिले, हाथों-पांवों पर मल कर धीरे-धीरे मालिश करें। इससे त्वचा मुलायम होगी तथा त्वचा पर जमी मैल, गंदगी दूर होगी। आप इस प्रक्रिया को रोजाना दोहरा सकते हैं या 1-2 दिन के अंतराल के बाद उपयोग कर सकते हैं। स्नान से पहले गुनगुना तेल लगाकर हाथों पर अच्छी तरह मालिश कीजिए। इससे हाथों की त्वचा मुलायम हो जाती है। इसके लिए आप नॉरियल तेल या तिल का जैतून या बादाम तेल का उपयोग करें तो बेहतर होगा। नहाने के तत्काल बाद जब आपकी त्वचा गीली हो तो हाथों पर मॉइस्चराइजर

या क्रीम लगा लीजिए, जिससे त्वचा में नमी बनाए रखने में मदद मिलेगी। बादाम, दही और चुटकी भर हल्दी डालकर 30 मिमिट बाद हाथों को ताजा ठनड़े पानी से धो डालिए। इस प्रक्रिया को आप हफ्ते में दो बार अपना सकते हैं। रात्रि को सोने से पहले हाथों पर पोषक क्रीम की हल्की मालिश के बाद सो जाइए। हाथों की त्वचा को मुलायम बनाए रखने के लिए आप कुछ घरेलू हब्सल प्रसाधनों की मदद भी ले सकते हैं। आजकल बाजार में कई तरह के मॉइस्चराइजर, हैंड क्रीम आदि उत्पाद उपलब्ध हैं। बांडी लोशन की बजाय हैंड क्रीम हमेशा बेहतर साबित होती है, क्योंकि हैंड क्रीम ज्यादा पोषक होती है। पानी पर आधारित लोशन लगाने से त्वचा में सूखापन बढ़ता है, क्योंकि पानी हवा में उड़ जाता है। इसके मुकाबले ऑयल आधारित क्रीम लगाना कहीं ज्यादा प्रभावी तथा लाभप्रद रहता है। जब भी आपके हाथ शुष्क हों तो तत्काल हैंड क्रीम लगाना ना भूलें। हाथों को धोने के

लिए उपयोग किए जाने वाले साबुन हल्के तथा सुगंधहित होने चाहिए। चार चम्मच बादाम तेल, एक चम्मच गुलाब जल तथा आधा चम्मच टिनकर वैजोइन मिला कर बने मिश्रण को हाथों पर लगाकर सूती कपड़े से ढक लें तथा इसे रातभर हाथों पर लगा रहने के बाद सुबह ताजा पानी से धो डालिए। इससे आपके हाथ कोमल तथा मुलायम हो जाएंगे। लोशन की बजाय आप क्रीम या आर्बन्टमेंट की प्राथमिकता दीजिए, क्योंकि यह ज्यादा प्रभावी होते हैं। नौबू जूस और चीनी को हाथों पर रगड़ने से त्वचा मुलायम होती है। हाथों की त्वचा की रंगत निखारने या मुलायम करने के लिए थोड़ी सी चीनी में नौबू रस मिलाकर हल्की मालिश करके थोड़ी देर बाद गुनगुने पानी से धो डालिए। एक चम्मच सूर्यमुखी तेल, दो चम्मच नौबू जूस तथा तीन चम्मच चीनी मिलाकर बनाए गए मिश्रण को हाथों पर लगाकर आधे घंटे बाद हाथों को ताजा साफ पानी से धो डालिए। इसे हफ्ते में तीन बार प्रयोग कर सकते हैं।

Social Media Corner

सब के हक में...

हिमाचल प्रदेश के सभी निवासियों को पूर्ण राज्यत्व दिवस की बहुन-बहुन बधाई। मेरी कामना है कि अपनी प्राकृतिक सुंदरता और भव्य विरासत को सहेजने वाली हमारी यह देवभूमि उन्नति के पथ पर तेजी से आगे बढ़े।

(प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी का 'एक्स' पर पोस्ट)



गणतंत्र दिवस समारोह के लिए विशेष अतिथि के रूप में आमंत्रित वाइब्रेट विलेजज के सरपंचों, उप-सरपंचों, महिला उद्यमियों व विद्यार्थियों के साथ संवाद कर रहा हूं। वाइब्रेट विलेज प्रोग्राम से फिजिकल और डिजिटल कनेक्टिविटी के साथ-साथ दिलों की कनेक्टिविटी भी बढ़ रही है। मोदी जी ने लदाखवासियों को सर्दियों के दौरान डीजल-पेट्रोल के जम जाने की समस्या से हिलाई मुक्ति। वाइब्रेट विलेज प्रोग्राम से सीमावर्ती गाँवों का इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर, संस्कृति, पर्यटन, जीवन और आर्थिक उन्नति देश के बाकी हिस्से जितनी ही वाइब्रेट होगी।

(गृह मंत्री अमित शाह का 'एक्स' पर पोस्ट)



दुमका स्थित सुंदर मयूराक्षी नदी पर मसानजोर डैम परिसर में पर्यटकों की सुविधा हेतु नवनिर्मित इको फ्रेंडली रिसॉर्ट का उद्घाटन किया। पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में यह रिसॉर्ट झारखण्ड को एक नई गति देगा। इको फ्रेंडली रिसॉर्ट में कॉटेज में रहने के साथ-साथ पर्टेक स्पीड बोट का भी लुफ्त उठा सकते हैं।



(सीएम हेमंत सोरेन का 'एक्स' पर पोस्ट)



गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

समरेश सिंह
उर्फ गुड्डू सिंह
 झामुमो नेता
 विधायक प्रतिनिधि-नगर
 चक्रधरपुर

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

युनिका शर्मा
 प्रखंड विकास पदाधिकारी
 घाटशिला, पूर्वी सिंहभूम

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

सरोज कसेरा
 पूर्व वार्ड परिषद
 चक्रधरपुर

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

संजय पांडे
 जिला अध्यक्ष
 भारतीय जनता पार्टी
 पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

पंकज शर्मा
संवेदक
 पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

केशव मिश्रा
 समाजसेवी सह संस्थापक
 एक प्रयास मिशन

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

सुरेश प्रसाद सिन्हा
 अंचल अधिकारी
 चक्रधरपुर

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

आदिकांत पांडे
 समाजसेवी सह अधिवक्ता
 चक्रधरपुर

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

डॉ. अंशुमन शर्मा
 प्रभारी चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी
 अनुमंडल अस्पताल
 चक्रधरपुर

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

राकेश माहेश्वरी
 समाजसेवी
 चक्रधरपुर

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

शशि शेखर मिंज
 शिखर इंडियन गैस प्रोपराइटर
 चक्रधरपुर
 मो.-9102801694

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

गोलडी सिंह
 समाजसेवी
 चक्रधरपुर, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

नर्गिस खातून
 सचिव
 सृजन महिला विकास मंच
 चक्रधरपुर, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

देवयानी मुर्मू
 जिला परिषद सदस्य
 अंश 16, घाटशिला
 झारखंड

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

कर्ण सिंह
 जिला परिषद सदस्य
 अंश 17 घाटशिला
 पूर्वी सिंहभूम, झारखंड

गणतंत्र दिवस पर हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

सुवर्णरेखा नर्सिंग होम एंड रिसर्च सेंटर
 गोपालपुर, घाटशिला

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

विनोद भगरिया
 समाजसेवी
 चक्रधरपुर, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

निशांत अंबर
 अंचलाधिकारी
 घाटशिला, पूर्वी सिंहभूम
 झारखंड

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

कांचन मुखर्जी
 प्रखंड विकास पदाधिकारी
 चक्रधरपुर

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

गोपाल कोईरी
 वरिष्ठ झामुमो नेता
 घाटशिला

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जगदीश भगत
 विधायक प्रतिनिधि
 घाटशिला, पूर्वी सिंहभूम

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धनंजय
 डीटीओ
 पूर्वी सिंहभूम

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 गोपालपुर, घाटशिला
 24 घंटा चिकित्सा सेवा
 एंबुलेंस सहित अन्य
 सारी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध

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अवर निबंधक
सह-विशेष विवाह पदाधिकारी
 घाटशिला

गणतंत्र दिवस पर हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

जेसी उच्च विद्यालय
 घाटशिला
तापस चटर्जी
 प्रबंधन समिति
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गीता कोड़ा
 पूर्व नगर, मिर्जापुर लोकसभा

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मधु कोड़ा
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हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

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 समाजसेवी
 खरसोती, घाटशिला

गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों को
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मंदू प्रजापति
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प्रिया देवी
 सचिव

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Biggest-ever India contingent at World Economic Forum

MUMBAI. With Union ministers Ashwini Vaishnaw, CR Patil, D Kumarswamy, Chirag Paswan, and Jayant Chaudhary leading the central delegation along with the chief ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana and senior ministers from Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Bengal and Uttar Pradesh participating in the World Economic Forum meet, the country made the biggest-ever presence at Davos this time. The chief ministers present at the summit include Andhra's Chandrababu Naidu, Maharashtra's Devendra Fadnis, and Telangana's Revanth Reddy while the rest of the states were represented by industry ministers and officials. As per government sources, this year's summit that began on January 20 was the first time-ever that all the state pavilions were aligned with India Pavilion and held joint press conferences. As per Vaishnaw, the idea of 'One Team India and One India Pavilion' came from the prime minister Narendra Modi.

DentCare dental lab selling 10 per cent equity to fund expansion plans: CMD John Kuriakose

KOCHI. DentCare Dental Lab, Asia's largest and world's second-largest dental lab, plans to acquire labs in the United States and open units across India in an effort to become the world leader in its field. The company, valued at Rs 1,500 crore, is seeking to sell 10% equity to fund the proposal, chairman and managing director John Kuriakose said. "We have decided to sell 10% equity to fund the expansion project. After 18 firms expressed interest in the stake in the initial stage, we have short-listed ICICI Capital, Wipro and Axis Bank. We will finalise our choice by February 10. Presently, we have five units in the country and we want to increase our presence to 30 centres. We have two units in the US and efforts are on to acquire some labs there. The plan is to grow into a Rs 5,000 crore company by 2030, after which we will go for an IPO," John said. Headquartered in Muvattupuzha, DentCare is associated with 40,000 dentists across the country and makes 5,000 products a month. Powered by a dedicated research and development wing, the company has production units in the United States, UK, UAE, Australia and New Zealand and extends services to 12 other countries. With a state-of-the-art laboratory spread over 3 lakh sqft, and 4,200 employees, DentCare produces a range of 450 dental products. Facing acute shortage of trained dental technicians, John established DentCare Institute of Dental Technology, which offers three-year bachelor's degree courses. The company absorbs 50% of the students for its labs.

Government E-Marketplace Surpasses Rs 4 Lakh Cr GMV Within 10 Months This Fiscal

New Delhi. Setting a new benchmark, the government e-Marketplace (GeM) has surpassed last years' gross merchandise value (GMV) of Rs 4 lakh crore within 10 months this fiscal (FY25). The GeM clocked a GMV of Rs 4.09 lakh crore as on January 23, which marks a growth of nearly 50 per cent over the corresponding period last fiscal, according to Ministry of Commerce and Industry. In terms of segment-wise GMV, the services segment accounted for Rs 2.54 lakh crore (62 per cent of the total GMV), whereas product segment accounted for Rs 1.55 lakh crore (38 per cent of the total GMV). The growth of the services



segment on GeM in FY25 has significantly fuelled the portal's upward growth trajectory. With an emphasis on expansion of bouquet of services offerings on GeM, 19 new service categories have been introduced on the portal in FY25, according to the ministry. Notably, services segment has grown by almost 100 per cent in comparison to the corresponding period in previous fiscal. "By facilitating procurement of specialised services like printing of debit cards, bulk email services, dark fibre leasing, operations management of data centres and more, the platform has enabled government entities to source from reliable vendors resulting in significant efficiency gains," said the ministry.

Start-ups expect simplified tax regime

Experts call for strengthening SIDBI's Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS).

BENGALURU. With the abolition of angel tax in the previous budget, the country's start-up ecosystem saw a boost in early-stage investments, and now in the upcoming budget, they expect tax reforms, simplification of ESOP (employee stock option plans) taxation and extended tax holidays.

India, which has the third largest start-up ecosystem in the world, boasts over 1.59 lakh start-ups that are recognised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) as of January 15, 2025.

Ashwani Singh, MD of 35 North Ventures, an early-stage AIF focused on empowering start-ups, said that the current taxation structure, taxing ESOPs at time of vesting and the high tax



burdens on capital gains for angel investors, hinder progress in the employee retention and funding landscape. He anticipates tax reforms in the upcoming budget to tackle these hurdles – simplifying ESOP taxation, streamlining capital gains tax structure across asset classes or introducing tax exemptions for angel investors and aligning them with global standards to encourage greater inflows of private

capital into the start-up ecosystem. Apoorva Ranjan Sharma, co-founder & MD of Venture Catalysts, said, a simplified tax regime for start-ups could be of great help, mainly for enterprises in Tier 2 and 3 cities. "A reduction in compliance burdens and extended tax holidays could provide the necessary impetus for these start-ups to scale rapidly," he said.

Experts call for strengthening SIDBI's

Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS). "The FFS program has been instrumental in catalysing start-up growth, but further enhancements are needed. Renewing SIDBI's allocation with an additional Rs 10,000 crore will ensure continued support for start-ups," said Anirudh A Damani, Managing Partner, Artha Venture Fund.

He said that beyond FFS, the country requires a sovereign-backed fund of funds anchored by SIDBI, which allows contributions from banks, insurance companies, and global sovereign wealth funds. "A \$5 billion to \$10 billion anchor fund, with SIDBI contributing 20%, could unlock significant start-up capital, fostering long-term partnerships and global investor confidence," he added. The current DPIT start-up classification limits eligibility to companies under 10 years of age or with revenue below Rs 100 crore. Experts call for including start-ups registered up to 20 years old and revising the revenue cap.

SC stays order in Tiger Global treaty abuse case

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday stayed a Delhi High Court order granting Tiger Global fund relief in a treaty 'abuse' case. The Supreme Court in its order said that the issue has pan-India implication and needs thorough attention. In August 2024, the Delhi High Court delivered a judgment in favour of Tiger Global International III Holdings, a Mauritius-based entity, concerning the applicability of the India-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to capital gains arising from sale of shares. This ruling had overturned an earlier decision by the Authority for Advance Rulings (AAR), which had denied treaty benefits to Tiger Global.

Tiger Global, a Mauritius-based entity, had sought tax exemption in India on gains from selling shares in Flipkart Singapore under provisions of India-Mauritius tax treaty. The Mauritius-based entity had contended that the

shares, acquired before 1 April 2017, were exempt under India-Mauritius tax treaty. However, the Indian tax authorities denied the exemption, claiming Tiger Global was a 'conduit'



company established solely for tax avoidance. The high court ruled in favour of Tiger Global, stating that the India-Mauritius treaty provides a grandfathering provision, exempting capital gains tax in India for shares acquired before April 1, 2017. Since Tiger Global's investment occurred

prior to this date, the court held that the capital gains from the 2018 sale were exempt from taxation in India.

The HC held that Tiger Global's investments were legitimate as it had been investing in Flipkart Singapore since 2011, well before the amendment of India-Mauritius DTAA in 2017, and that these investments were commercially driven.

As per tax experts, there are several key areas which could possibly need a thorough attention ranging from the interpretation of tax treaties in cases of indirect transfer cases, clarity on what constitutes a conduit company and what is the economic substance as well as how relevant are the people sitting in that entity for proving the substance since investment entities need not necessarily have employees sitting there in that jurisdiction.

ESIC Adds 16.07 Lakh Employees In Nov, 47 Per Cent Are Youngsters

New Delhi. The payroll data of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) reveals that 16.07 lakh new employees were added in November last year out of which over 47 per cent are young employees up to the age group of 25 years, which is a good indicator of new jobs being created in the economy. As many as 20,212 new establishments have been brought under the ambit of the ESI Scheme in the month of November 2024 thus ensuring social security to more workers, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Further, the year-on-year analysis shows a growth of 0.97 per cent in net registrations compared to November 2023. The statement highlights that out of the total 16.07 lakh employees added during the month, 7.57 lakh employees amounting to around 47.11 per cent of the total registrations belong to the age group of

up to 25 years. A gender-wise analysis of the payroll data indicates that the net enrolment of female members was 3.28 lakh in November 2024. Besides, a total of 44 transgender employees were also registered under the ESI Scheme during



the month, as part of the policy to extend benefits to every section of society, the statement said. The payroll data is provisional since the data generation is a continuous exercise and a revision can be made with more figures coming in. The ESIC data

matches the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) figures released this week which showed a net addition of 14.63 lakh members in November 2024, which represents an increase of 9.07 per cent over the corresponding figure for October.

Further, the year-on-year analysis reveals a growth of 4.88 per cent in net member additions compared to November 2023, reflecting increased employment opportunities and heightened awareness of employee benefits, as per the official statement. EPFO's payroll data shows a 5.86 lakh increase in the number of persons for the age group 18-25 for November, reflecting an increase of 7.96 per cent compared to the previous month of October. This is in consonance with the earlier trend which indicates that most individuals joining the organised workforce are youth, primarily first-time job seekers.



the Aayog. Subsidies form a high proportion of non-committed expenditure for the state. Karnataka rank dropped from 3 in 2014-15 to 2021-22 to 10 in 2022-23, primarily due to subdued performance under Quality of Expenditure and Debt Sustainability. Among the Southern states, Telangana was the best among the Southern states due to better revenue mobilization and fiscal prudence. The Fiscal Health Index (FHI) evaluates states on expenditure quality, revenue mobilisation, fiscal prudence, debt index and debt sustainability. The composite fiscal health index for 18 major states has been calculated using the data from the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). The period of the analysis is Financial Year 2022-23. Odisha excels in the fiscal health index with the highest overall index score of 67.8. Chhattisgarh and Goa follow, with scores of 55.2 and 53.6, respectively.

Adani Group denies cancellation of Sri Lanka wind power project

The Sri Lankan government has decided to review the 484 MW project amid local opposition, environmental concerns, and a bribery probe against the group.

NEW DELHI. The Adani group has refuted reports that the Sri Lankan government has cancelled the 484 MW wind power projects in Mannar and Pooneryn. As per local media reports, Sri Lanka's Cabinet, led by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, has decided to revoke the power purchase agreement with the Group. Report citing officials from Sri Lanka's Ministry of Energy said the government has cancelled the deal and established a panel to review the entire project.

An Adani Group spokesperson said the project has not been cancelled and the government's decision to review the



process is part of a "standard review process. It said the company remains committed to investing \$1 billion in Sri Lanka's green energy sector, driving renewable energy and economic growth. The decision to cancel the pact comes amid ongoing bribery probe by the US authorities against Adani Group. On 19 November 2024, the group faced charges in the US for allegedly making

bribe payments and concealing transactions from US investors. The group has dismissed these allegations as baseless. The government, under then President Ranil Wickremesinghe, in May 2024 signed a pact with the Group to procure electricity at a rate of \$0.0826 per kWh. The Group had planned to build a 484 MW wind power plant in coastal areas of

Mannar and Pooneryn. Local reports say the project faced major opposition in Sri Lanka due to concerns over pricing. The rate set by the Group was much higher than what local bidders had offered, fuelling criticism of the deal. Environmental groups, including Wildlife and Nature Protection Society and Environmental Foundation, voiced strong objections, citing concerns over potential harm to migratory birds and an inadequate Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Local communities, led by Bishop of Mannar, protested, warning that the project could disrupt local industries and threaten livelihoods. President Dissanayake had pledged during his election campaign to cancel the deal, promising to invite global tenders for wind power development in Sri Lanka. Though the original pact was under review by the SL Supreme Court, with a hearing scheduled for March 2025, revocation removes the matter from judicial review.

Centre Cracks Down On Spoofed International Calls, 20 Carriers Blocked

Further, the government asked Indian Telcos to initiate drive against foreign carriers or aggregators who are handing over spoofed international calls, and they have blocked more than 20 such carriers to date.

New Delhi. An indigenously-developed system to identify and block international spoofed calls that display Indian mobile numbers has significantly brought down such calls to about 4 lakh per day, the government has informed. Further, the government asked Indian Telcos to initiate drive against foreign carriers or aggregators who are handing over spoofed international calls, and they have blocked more than 20 such carriers to date. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) recently launched an indigenously-developed International Incoming Spoofed Calls Prevention System, along with all telecom service providers (TSPs).The tool proved to be a formidable barrier that blocked 90% of all the incoming international calls which were identified as spoofed calls - approximately 1.35 crore, in just 24 hours, indicating that the system's success in tackling the issue of cyber-crimes using spoofed calls from abroad.

Fraudsters were earlier using international



spoofed calls that displayed Indian mobile numbers (+91-xxxxx) to deceive Indian citizens and carrying out cyber-crimes and financial frauds.Though these calls appear to originate from within India, they are actually made from abroad through manipulation of the Calling Line Identity (CLI), commonly referred to as phone number.

With the successful implementation of the system, scammers abroad changed their modus operandi and now they have started spoofing using international numbers.To counter this, DoT has asked telecom service providers to

display "International Calls" on all calls coming from outside India.

This helps the citizen to understand that since the incoming calls is an "International Call", it cannot be from organisations like DoT, TRAI, police, RBI, customs, UIDAI etc.One of the major service providers has already implemented this in its network and others are in process of doing so, according to Ministry of Communications.In order to further tackle the menace of international spoofed calls from reaching Indian citizens, DoT has asked telecom service providers (TSPs) to block traffic from such international carriers, which are repeatedly sending spoofed CLI call traffic to India.Providers like Airtel and BSNL have blocked more than 20 such carriers/aggregators who were handing over spoofed international calls."The recently launched Sanchar Saathi App has placed the convenience of reporting fraudulent calls at the fingertips of the citizens. It immensely enhances the ease of reporting any suspected fraud communications by allowing citizens to report such incidents directly from their mobile phone call logs," said the DoT.

India says keeping an eye after Pakistan sends ISI agents to Bangladesh

New Delhi. Pakistan sending its top army officials and spies to Bangladesh have put New Delhi on alert. India on Friday said that it is closely monitoring the recent developments and "will take appropriate steps" when it comes to national security."We keep an eye on all activities around the country and in the region, as well as all activities affecting national security, and the government will take appropriate steps," External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a weekly media briefing.

These remarks come right after a high-profile delegation from Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), led by Major General Shahid Amir Afsar, concluded its four-day visit to Bangladesh on Friday.The visit follows the recent trip made by top Bangladeshi military officials to Pakistan where they had met with the three service



chiefs.Since the turmoil following former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's ouster, Muhammad Yunus-led Bangladesh has grown comfortably closer to Pakistan, raising a red flag in India.Bangladesh's decision to grant a visa to any Pakistani citizen without security clearance has raised eyebrows, with experts warning of an increase in ISI and Jamaat activities in India's backyard."There have been recent reports of eased travel restrictions for Pakistan ISI and Jamaat elements to Dhaka," a security analyst had earlier told .However, India has been ready to put its differences aside and work towards a "democratic, progressive and inclusive" Bangladesh."We support a democratic, progressive and inclusive Bangladesh. We want to strengthen our ties so that the people of India and Bangladesh can prosper," Jaiswal further said at the media briefing.On Bangladesh raising objection to India's border fencing along the border, Jaiswal said that it is aimed at stopping the illegal movement of humans and cattle.

Power outage during surgery at Punjab hospital stirs row, AAP responds

New Delhi. A power outage in the operation theatre (OT) of the government-run Rajindra Hospital in Patiala during a surgery has sparked a row after a video filmed by a doctor went viral on social media.In the video, the patient lies unconscious on the surgical bed as the doctor explains that power fluctuations persisted for 15 minutes, causing the ventilator to stop during the surgery.While raising the concerns for the patients' safety, the doctor said that this was not one of the incidents. The video also revealed that, contrary to official claims, the hospital's emergency ward was not connected to a dedicated power hotline.

Punjab Health Minister Balbir Singh shrugged off the incident, saying on his official X handle, "The power backup systems at Rajindra Hospital, Patiala, are multi-level (3 hotlines) and functioning without issue. On Friday, a local fault led to a momentary loss of electricity. The UPS and generator backup functioned seamlessly, and the surgery was conducted without issue. The patient is recovering well. Unfortunately, a junior doctor panicked and recorded a video. Medical staff must remain focused on patient care at all times."

Slamming the government over the health model of Punjab, former Health Minister Balbir Singh Sadhu, on his official X handle, said, "Extremely shocking. One of the premier hospitals of Punjab is facing an electricity issue. Bhagwant Mann Ji has made patients' lives a joke! This health model is not what Punjab voted for.""Instead of focusing on the issues of Punjab, Bhagwant Mann and the Health Minister are more focused on the upcoming Delhi Elections," he added.

Fed up with abusive husbands, 2 women marry each other in UP's Gorakhpur

NEW DELHI. Distraught with their alcoholic and abusive spouses, two women in Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur left their homes and married each other. Kavita and Gunja, alias Bablu, tied the knot at the Shiva Temple, famously known as Choti Kashi, in Deoria on Thursday evening. They first connected with each other on Instagram and quickly became friends. They stayed in touch for six years before deciding to get married. Both women said they suffered domestic violence at the hands of their husbands.At the temple, Gunja took on the role of the groom, placing vermilion (sindoor) on Kavita's forehead. The women also exchanged garlands and performed the seven vows (pheras).



One woman said her husband, an alcoholic, assaulted her daily. She has four children and decided to return to her parents' home after enduring repeated violence. The other woman claimed her husband also drank excessively and falsely accused her of infidelity, leading her to leave him."We were tormented by our husbands' drinking and abusive behaviour. This pushed us to choose a life of peace and love. We have decided to live in Gorakhpur as a couple and work to sustain ourselves," Gunja was quoted as saying by news agency PTI.

The women said they were determined to stay together and would not let anyone separate them. Although they currently do not have a permanent home, they plan to rent a place to live.Uma Shankar Pandey, the temple priest, said the women bought garlands and vermilion, completed the rituals, and departed quietly.

US Supreme Court clears extradition of 26/11 accused Tahawwur Rana to India

NEW DELHI. The US Supreme Court has approved the extradition of Tahawwur Rana, convicted in connection with the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, to India.

Rana, a Canadian citizen of Pakistani origin, is sought by Indian authorities for his alleged role in the attacks that targeted multiple locations in Mumbai.

Rana, 63, has been held in a Los Angeles prison. The FBI arrested Rana in Chicago in 2009. He is linked to Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, also known as "Daoud Gilani," a key figure in the attacks, and is accused of aiding him and others in Pakistan to support the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in carrying out the attack. Headley became an approver in the case and is serving a 35-year prison

sentence in the US for his involvement in the attack.

Weeks after challenging his extradition in the US Supreme Court, Tahawwur Rana's appeal has been dismissed,



clearing the way for his extradition to India.

In his plea, Rana argued that he was tried and acquitted in federal court in the Northern District of Illinois (Chicago)

on charges related to the Mumbai attacks. He also stated that he could be sent to India for a second trial on the same charges, facing the possibility of a conviction and death sentence.

Rana had earlier approached the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco after losing legal battles in lower and federal courts.

On December 16, US Solicitor General Elizabeth B Prelogar urged the Supreme Court to reject Rana's petition. His lawyer, Joshua L. Dratel, responded on December 23, opposing the government's position and requesting the Supreme Court to hear the case. The Court declined the

plea.

Rana is accused of involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, which killed 166 people, including six Americans.

Fire breaks out in two parked vehicles near Mahakumbh mela venue in Prayagraj

New Delhi. A major fire engulfed two parked vehicles in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj during the early hours of Saturday. The incident occurred on the main road leading to Mahakumbh Mela, stirring panic among the locals.Choking clouds of smoke were seen rising from the cars. Several firefighters reached the spot and brought the flames under control. No casualties or injuries have been reported.

Speaking with news agency ANI, UP Fire officer Vishal Yadav said, "Devotees have come from far-flung areas and have parked their vehicles here. The fire broke out due to the extreme heat. Fire engines have reached the spot, and

the fire has been controlled. The Ertiga car is completely burnt, and the Venue car is partially burnt. There were no casualties in the incident, and everyone



is safe."The fire broke out around 6:30 am, Yadav told news agency PTI. In response, six fire brigades and water

tenders were dispatched to the scene, where the fire was swiftly brought under control, he added.

This incident took place a week after a fire broke out at the Mahakumbh venue, which, according to the police, was caused by a cylinder explosion.

Vivek Chaturvedi, the Additional District Magistrate (ADM) for the Mahakumbh Mela, stated that the fire occurred on January 19 in the Gita Press camp. Around 70 to 80 huts and eight to 10 tents were destroyed.

Following the incident, Samajwadi Party chief

Akhilesh Yadav called for urgent action and urged authorities to take steps to prevent similar accidents in the future.

Top Court reserves treasurer post in Bengaluru advocates body for women lawyers

New Delhi. Exercising its plenary powers, the Supreme Court on Friday reserved the post of treasurer in Bengaluru advocates association for women lawyers.A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh exercised its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution observing the election for the bar body was scheduled on February 2 and the nomination process was over.

"We deem it appropriate to invoke our powers under Article 142 of Constitution and direct as follows - (i) the post of treasurer shall be exclusively earmarked for women candidates," it held.

The court invoked its powers saying it was "high-time" to provide women reservation in different elected bodies of advocates and there were no express provisions in the memorandum and by-laws earmarking seats for women candidates of the association.The bench directed the high-powered committee constituted to oversee the election and

the chief returning officer for the bar body polls to extend the date for inviting nominations and, if required, the election to be deferred for a few days.

However, such a decision will be at the discretion of the committee and the chief returning officer, it added.

The top court ordered the committee and the returning officer to also consider adequate representation of the women advocates in the governing council of advocates' association of Bengaluru to ensure at least 30 per cent of elected members of the council were women candidates with 10 years of practice experience.The top court was hearing a plea filed by a woman lawyer who sought the implementation of directions of women reservation issued in case of Delhi High Court Bar Association, where the court last year directed for reserving seats for women lawyers including the post of treasurer.



Senior advocate Lakshmy Iyengar, appearing in the matter, requested the bench to relax the 10-year experience criteria to allow more participation from young lawyers in the governing council. The bench acceded to the request and ordered a similar arrangement - relaxing 10 years experience criteria - like the one in Delhi High Court Bar Association elections case should be implemented in the Advocate Association of Bengaluru, which completed its term on December 19.The top court further issued and sought a response from the Bengaluru

advocates association.The bench observed the Karnataka High Court had noted there were no express provisions in the memorandums and by-laws of Advocate Association Bengaluru for reserving seats for women lawyers and said the apex court, which was dealing with similar issues could pass appropriate orders.It said there was no legal impediment in providing reservation to women lawyers.The top court recently directed reserving the treasurer's post and 30 per cent seats for women lawyers in the executive committee of Delhi Sales Tax Bar Association and Delhi Tax Bar Association.On January 20, the top court directed 33 per cent seats would be reserved for women lawyers in the election of the National Green Tribunal bar association.The top court in December last year directed reserving three posts for women lawyers in the DHCBA election.

NEWS BOX

Yoshitha Rajapaksa, son of former Sri Lankan president, arrested on corruption charges

COLOMBO. Former Sri Lankan president Mahinda Rajapaksa's son Yoshitha Rajapaksa was arrested by police on Saturday on corruption charges in a property purchase case.Ex-navy officer Yoshitha was arrested from their home territory of Beliatta over the investigation of alleged misconduct in the purchase of the property during the term of his father's presidency prior to 2015.

Yoshitha is the second among Mahinda Rajapaksa's three sons.His uncle and former president Gotabaya Rajapaksa was also quizzed by the police last week on the same property - a holiday home in the southern religious resort of Kataragama.The arrest came as Mahinda Rajapaksa filed a fundamental rights petition on Friday in the Supreme Court seeking its intervention to reinstate his security, which was significantly reduced by the government last month.Since the formation of a new government led by President Anura Kumara Disسانayake in November last year, Mahinda Rajapaksa's eldest son and legislator Namal Rajapaksa was quizzed by the police over another property case alongside an employee of Mahinda Rajapaksa.The new government in the run-up to elections had vowed to arrest everyone accused of wrongdoing during Mahinda Rajapaksa's presidency between 2005 and 2015.

Polio Returns To Pakistan, Afghanistan As Vaccinations Stall

World Poliomyelitis was responsible for paralysing and killing up to half a million people every year before the development of the poliovirus vaccine in 1955. By 2000, through mass vaccination campaigns of oral polio vaccines, the world had almost eradicated poiliovirus barring a few regions.

However, the global fight against polio has encountered a significant setback, as cases of the disease have begun to rise again in Pakistan. Despite being on the brink of eradication in 2023, with only six reported cases of the wild form of the virus, the number of cases has surged to 73 in 2024. This alarming trend has prompted concerns among health experts, who point to the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan as a major factor contributing to the spread of the disease.Per data from the WHO, infectious diseases such as pneumonia, dengue fever and measles have also been on the rise in Afghanistan since the last six months.Zulfikar Bhutta, a renowned expert on child immunisation strategies in conflict zones, said that the genetic strains of wild poliovirus in Pakistan are all from Afghanistan, per a report on Deutsche Welle.Bhutta, who has worked extensively in the region, attributes the resurgence of polio cases in Pakistan to the spillover of the virus from Afghanistan. "It has spread to all districts of Pakistan. We've snatched defeat from the jaws of victory," Bhutta lamented."It's a virus that does not want to be eradicated, so give it an inch and it will take a yard," Bhutta said.The challenges facing polio eradication efforts in the region are multifaceted. Bhutta cites the Taliban's restrictions on female health professionals, poor sanitary conditions, and regional insecurity as significant obstacles. The lack of reliable data on poliovirus cases in Afghanistan further complicates efforts to combat the disease.

Ex-Sri Lankan President's Son Arrested By Police Over Corruption Charges

Colombo.Former Sri Lankan president Mahinda Rajapaksa's son Yoshitha Rajapaksa was arrested by police on Saturday on corruption charges in a property purchase case.Ex-navy officer Yoshitha was arrested from their home territory of Beliatta over the investigation of alleged misconduct in the purchase of the property during the term of his father's presidency prior to 2015.Yoshitha is the second aong Mahinda Rajapaksa's three sons.His uncle and former president Gotabaya Rajapaksa was also quizzed by the police last week on the same property - a holiday home in the southern religious resort of Kataragama.The arrest came as Mahinda Rajapaksa filed a fundamental rights petition on Friday in the Supreme Court seeking its intervention to reinstate his security, which was



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Israel, Hamas are set to swap more hostages for prisoners in another test of the Gaza ceasefire

The conflict began with a cross-border attack led by Hamas on Oct. 7, 2023, when Palestinian militants killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took around 250 others, hostage.

DEIR AL-BALAH. Israel and Hamas were expected to swap more hostages for Palestinian prisoners on Saturday, the second such exchange since a ceasefire began in the Gaza Strip last weekend and another test for the deal.The truce is aimed at winding down the deadliest and most destructive war ever fought between Israel and the militant group. The fragile deal has so far held, quieting airstrikes and rockets

and allowing for increased aid to flow into the tiny coastal territory.When the ceasefire started Sunday, three hostages held by the militants were released in exchange for 90 Palestinian prisoners. On Saturday, four hostages are expected to be freed for 200 prisoners, including 120 who are serving life sentences after being convicted of deadly attacks on Israelis. They will likely be released into Gaza or sent abroad.The four Israeli soldiers, Karina Arieв, 20; Daniella Gilboa, 20; Naama Levy, 20; and Liri Albag, 19, were captured in Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023 attack that ignited the war.

They were taken from Nahal Oz base near the border with Gaza when Palestinian militants overran it, killing more than 60 soldiers there. The female abductees had all served in a unit of lookouts charged with monitoring threats along the border. A fifth female soldier in their unit, Agam Berger, 20, was abducted with them but not included in the list.After the swap, Israel is expected to begin pulling back from the

Netzarim corridor — an east-west road dividing Gaza in two — and allowing displaced Palestinians in the south to return



to their former homes in the north for the first time since the beginning of the war. Palestinians will only be allowed to move north on foot, with vehicular traffic restricted until later in the ceasefire. What happens after the deal's initial six-week phase is uncertain, but many hope it will

lead to the end of a war that has leveled wide swaths of Gaza, displaced the vast majority of its population, and left hundreds of thousands of people at risk of famine.The conflict began with a cross-border attack led by Hamas on Oct. 7, 2023, when Palestinian militants killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took around 250 others, hostage.

More than 100 hostages were freed in a weeklong truce the following month. But dozens have remained in captivity for over a year with no contact with the outside world. Israel believes at least a third of the more than 90 captives still inside Gaza were killed in the initial attack or died in captivity.Israel's air and ground war, one of the deadliest and most destructive in decades, has killed over 47,000 Palestinians, according to local health officials, who do not say how many were militants. They say women and children make up more than half the fatalities.

What Americans think about Trump and Musk's plans for the federal government

WASHINGTON. Americans see the federal government as rife with corruption, inefficiency and red tape — but they're less sure about whether Elon Musk is the right person to fix it.

A new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows that only about 3 in 10 U.S. adults strongly or somewhat approve of President Trump's creation of an advisory body on government efficiency, which Musk is helping. About 4 in 10 disapprove, while the rest were neutral or didn't know enough to say. (The poll was conducted before Vivek Ramaswamy announced he would no longer be involved in the group.)The goal of the advisory body, the Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, is to expose fraudulent and wasteful spending across the federal bureaucracy, and its leaders have floated a range of possible ways to cut costs, including eliminating entire agencies. But although most agree that the federal government is facing major problems, many Americans also have an unfavorable view of Musk and are hesitant about the Republican president relying on billionaires for advice about

government policy.As the plans take more concrete shape, the poll shows that Americans are ambivalent about some of the changes that Trump and his team have mentioned in the past few months — including eliminating large numbers of federal jobs and moving



federal agencies outside Washington. Substantial shares don't have an opinion, indicating that there's plenty of room for opinion to shift in either direction.A return-to-office policy for federal workers — which was one of Trump's first executive actions on Inauguration Day — is fairly popular.

Americans see a broken federal government — but aren't as concerned about the 'deep state'As Trump sweeps into his second term with promises to cut regulations and reduce the role of government bureaucrats, most Americans think the federal government has serious problems. About two-thirds of U.S. adults say corruption and inefficiency are “major problems” in the federal government, and roughly 6 in 10 say the same about red tape, such as government regulations and bureaucracy.Republicans are more likely than Democrats to think these are major problems — but a majority of Democrats still agree that corruption and inefficiency are significant challenges for the government.

But despite Trump's claims that career federal workers resisted his policies during his first term, concern about civil servants who are unwilling to implement the president's agenda is not as high. Only about one-third of Americans say this is a big problem in the government.

Hamas names the four hostages it plans to release on Saturday in latest Gaza ceasefire exchange

TELAVIV: The Hamas militant group on Friday published the names of four hostages it said it would release the following day as part of the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip. There was no immediate confirmation of the names from Israel. The hostages are to be freed on Saturday in exchange for the release of dozens of Palestinians imprisoned or detained by Israel.Relatives of hostages still being held by militants in Gaza had earlier Friday called on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to ensure that all remaining captives are freed, while also appealing to U.S. President Donald Trump to continue pressing for their release.As a fragile six-week ceasefire between Israel and Hamas entered its sixth day, Israelis were waiting anxiously for the names of the next four hostages who will be released from among the more than 90 still held in Gaza.In the Palestinian

enclave, civilians in the central and southern part of the Gaza Strip faced an agonizing wait before they can return to the remnants of their home in the battered north.Israel believes about a third, or possibly as many as half, of the more than 90 hostages still in Gaza have died. Hamas has not released definitive information on how many captives are still alive or the names of those who have died.“Dear President Trump, first of all we want to say thank you for the happy moments we felt this week. But we want to tell you we still have 94 hostages, we need them all at home,” said Ayelet Samerano, whose son Yonatan Samerano is among those still being held. “Please do not stop. Please continue to press and do everything so that all the 94 hostages will come home immediately.”In the first phase of the ceasefire deal, 33 hostages are expected to be released gradually in return for

hundreds of Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.The first three Israeli hostages were freed in exchange for 90 Palestinian prisoners on Sunday, the first day of the ceasefire that has halted the 15-month war that has devastated Gaza. Wide swathes of the territory have been destroyed, while more than 47,000 Palestinians have been killed, according to Gaza health authorities, who do not differentiate between combatants and civilians but say more than half are women and children.According to the deal, on Friday Hamas was to announce the names of the next four hostages to be released on Saturday, after which Israel will also release a list of which Palestinian prisoners will be freed.The hostages were among about 250 men, women and children captured by militants who burst across the border into Israel on Oct.



experienced officials who would normally be considered for the job.He has pledged to focus the military on "lethality" and to bring back "warrior culture" to the Pentagon.In confirming him, Republicans brushed aside his lack of experience leading an organization anywhere near the size of the Defense Department -- the country's largest employer with some three million personnel.They also approved Hegseth despite allegations of financial mismanagement at veterans' nonprofits where he previously worked, reports of excessive drinking, and allegations that he sexually assaulted a woman in California.Asked during his confirmation hearing last week about criticism he has faced, Hegseth said there was a "coordinated smear campaign" against him, and that he is "not a perfect person, but redemption is real."

Trump has stood by him, telling reporters Friday: "Pete's a very, very good man."

The US intends to leave the World Health Organization. What happens next

World The US intends to leave the World Health Organization. What happens next?

Donald Trump’s plan to withdraw the United States from the World Health Organization (WHO) has been met with dismay in the public health field.Some have called one of the US president’s first executive orders “a grave error” and “absolutely bad news”.

What does the WHO do?

The WHO is a United Nations agency that aims to expand universal health coverage, coordinates responses to health emergencies such as pandemics, and has a broad focus on healthy lives. It does not have the power to enforce health policy, but influences policy worldwide, especially in low-income countries.

The World Health Organization plays an essential coordinating role in surveillance, response and policy for infectious and non-infectious diseases. In fact, infectious diseases have the most pressing need for global coordination. Unlike non-communicable diseases, infections can spread rapidly from one country to another,

just as COVID spread to cause a pandemic. We have much to thank the WHO for, including the eradication of smallpox, a feat which could not have been achieved without global coordination and leadership. It has also played a leading role in control of polio and HIV.

Why does the US want to withdraw?

The reasons for withdrawing include: the mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic ... and other global health crises, its failure to adopt urgently needed reforms, and its inability to demonstrate independence from the inappropriate political influence of WHO member states. The executive order also cites the disproportionately higher payments the US makes to the WHO compared to China. In 2024-25, the US contributed 22% of the organisation's mandatory funding from member states compared to about 15% for China.President Trump initiated withdrawal from the WHO over similar concerns in 2020. But this was reversed by President Biden in 2021.What happens

next?The withdrawal may take a year to come into effect, and may need approval by the US Congress.How this will play out is unclear, but it seems likely the WHO will lose US funding.The US withdrawal may also be the final nail in the coffin for the WHO Pandemic Agreement, which faltered in 2024 when member states could not agree on the final Trump's executive order states all negotiations around the pandemic agreement will cease. However, the order hints that the US will look at working with international partners to tackle global health.The US Centers for Disease and Control (CDC) already has such international partners and could feasibly do this. It already convenes a global network of training in outbreak response, which could provide a model. But to move in this direction needs finessing, as another objective of the new US government is to reduce or cease international aid.The WHO also convenes a range of expert committees and networks of reference laboratories. One among many

network of laboratories is for influenza, comprising more than 50 labs in 41 member states. This includes five “super labs”, one of which is at the CDC. It’s unclear what would happen to such networks, many of which have major US components.

With the threat of bird flu mutating to become a human pandemic these global networks are critical for surveillance of pandemic threats.WHO expert committees also drive global health policy on a range of issues. It is possible for the WHO to accredit labs in non-member countries, or for experts from non-member countries to be on WHO expert committees. But how this will unfold, especially for US government-funded labs or experts who are US government employees, is unclear.

Another potential impact of a US withdrawal is the opportunity for other powerful member nations to become more influential once the US leaves. This may lead to restrictions on US experts sitting on WHO committees or working with the organisation in other ways.

NEWS BOX

Australian Open: Aryna Sabalenka favourite in finale, but Madison Keys no pushover

New Delhi. Sometimes you are like, I do not know, I am just walking around the court because I feel like she was playing a PlayStation."

Paula Badosa was left stunned after Aryna Sabalenka showed absolutely no mercy on her best friend in the semi-final of the Australian Open women's singles on Thursday. Since winning the Australian Open in 2023 after taking down 2022 Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina, the Belarusian hasn't looked back. She has grown in stature, heading into a season as the World No.1 for the first time in her career in 2025. The 6-4, 6-2 win against Badosa was an absolute statement, showing how brutal she has been on hard courts in the last two years. The top-ranked star is now a step away from becoming the first woman since Martina Hingis in 1997-99 to win a hat-trick of titles at Melbourne Park.Sabalenka will now be up against Madison Keys in a final



where she will be the firm favourite. On Saturday, January 25, at the Rod Laver Arena, it should not raise eyebrows if Sabalenka eases past Keys within a blink of an eye. It's easy to predict a one-sided final given the form Sabalenka has been in.

But can one undermine Keys? Maybe not.

Keys wasn't at her best in the semi-final against Iga Swiatek. Let's admit it. After making 40 unforced errors, seven double faults and dropping her serve six times, the American stuttered at various stages of her match against the Pole. She even faced a match point in the third set, but somehow managed to hold her nerve in the thrilling 10-point tie-break.Given how she played against Swiatek, although she won, it's tricky to bet on Keys to come up trumps in the summit clash against Sabalenka, who has taken down anyone and everyone who has come in her path. But having played in majors for over a decade, having gone through several ups and downs, Keys cannot be taken lightly by any stretch of the imagination.Keys has also returned to Grand Slam finals since losing to Sloanne Stephens in the US Open final back in 2017. Ranked No.14 in the world, Keys has a golden chance to add a Grand Slam title to her name and add to her nine trophies. Having beaten Swiatek, who has four majors to her name, Keys will be brimming with confidence and will be looking to carry it into the final.

Ranji Trophy: Rohit Sharma gives pep talk to Mumbai after Shardul Thakur heroics

NEW DELHI. Rohit Sharma might not have scored enough on his return to domestic cricket, but the India captain played the role of a team man to perfection for Mumbai against Jammu and Kashmir. Ahead of the final innings of the Ranji Trophy match at the Bandra Kurla Complex, Rohit gave a pep talk to his teammates after Mumbai set Jammu and Kashmir a target of 205 runs.At the change of innings, it was Rohit, rather than captain Ajinkya Rahane, who was seen addressing the team. His teammates, including Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shardul Thakur, listened to the India captain with rapt attention. Rohit appeared in good spirits as he took his place in the slip cordon, with Mumbai hunting for early wickets.Once Jammu and Kashmir's chase began, Ajinkya Rahane took charge of proceedings, standing



in the mid-on and mid-off regions, constantly engaging with Mumbai's bowlers.Mumbai had been in danger of losing the Ranji Trophy match at home as early as the second day. They were reduced to 101 for 7 in their second innings, with a lead of just 21 runs at that stage. However, Shardul Thakur and Tanush Kotian rescued the hosts, stitching together a crucial 184-run partnership for the eighth wicket.Shardul Thakur smashed his second first-class hundred and celebrated it with unrestrained emotion at BKC on Friday. Kotian contributed with 62, as both batters remained unbeaten at Stumps on Friday.

However, neither Shardul nor Tanush was able to add much to their tallies on the following day, getting out for 119 and 62, respectively. Jammu and Kashmir's pace trio of Umar Nazir, Auqib Nabi, and Yudhvir Singh kept things tight, restricting Mumbai to 290.

Rohit Sharma, playing his first Ranji Trophy match in nine years, was dismissed for just 3 in the first innings. He managed 28 in the second, showing glimpses of his silky strokeplay. However, another half-hearted shot cut short his stay at the crease after 35 balls.

IND vs ENG, 2nd T20I: Deflated England set for another trial by spin in Chennai

India vs England, 2nd T20I

preview: After struggling against spin in Kolkata, England face another stern test in Chennai, known for its spin-friendly conditions. India are sweating over the fitness of opener Abhishek Sharma, who twisted his ankle during training on Friday.

New Delhi. India will aim to continue their T20I juggernaut when they face England in the second match of the ongoing five-match series in Chennai on Saturday, 25 January. Since winning the T20 World Cup last year, India have doubled down on their aggressive brand of cricket, and it has yielded significant dividends. The transition following the retirement of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli from the format has been seamless.After defeating Bangladesh at home and overcoming the South African challenge, the Suryakumar

Yadav-led side was expected to face a stern test against England, renowned for their power-hitting prowess.However, the much-anticipated opening T20I of the series turned into a one-sided contest, with England struggling against India's spinners. The visitors were bowled out for just 132 in 20 overs, and India chased the target with ease, taking only 12.5 overs to secure victory on Thursday.England will look to put in a stronger all-round performance, but their batters face another trial by spin in Chennai.Vice-captain Harry Brook, addressing the press on Friday, attributed England's struggles against spin in Kolkata to visibility issues caused by smog. Chennai is expected to offer clearer conditions, presenting a true test of skill for England's batters on a pitch that traditionally favours spinners at the MA Chidambaram Stadium.England's vulnerability against spin is no secret. In last year's T20 World Cup clash, they were bowled out for 103 while chasing 172, with Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav sharing six wickets between them.

More Varun threat in Chennai?

In Kolkata, it was Varun Chakravarthy who dismantled England's middle order alongside Axar Patel and Ravi Bishnoi. The three spinners conceded just 67 runs in

12 overs and took five wickets collectively.Varun will be eager to repeat his heroics, this time in front of his home



crowd in his first-ever T20I at Chepauk. The Kolkata Knight Riders spinner acknowledged the challenge England pose but emphasised his preparedness.

“The first thing is preparation—studying the batter, understanding their go-to shots, and checking if they’ve added any new strokes to their repertoire. I definitely do that research. Based on that, and the pitch conditions, I make certain calculations. Some shots work on certain pitches, while others don’t, so I plan accordingly,” Varun said, highlighting his combination of homework and instinctive decision-

making.England, known for their all-out aggressive approach, need to show adaptability, especially when early wickets fall in the powerplay. Both Brook and Liam Livingstone were guilty of poor shot selection in Kolkata, throwing away their wickets when England were attempting to rebuild after Arshdeep Singh's early strikes.Team News: India vs England, 2nd T20IAll eyes will be on Mohammed Shami, who missed the first T20I despite being declared fit for international cricket for the first time since the 2023 World Cup. Shami underwent heel surgery and later suffered a knee injury during the final phase of his recovery. He missed the Border-Gavaskar Trophy but was included in the T20I squad ahead of the ODIs against England and the Champions Trophy.His absence in Kolkata raised a few eyebrows, but the Indian camp have not indicated any fresh injury concerns. It remains to be seen whether Shami will make his much-anticipated return in Chennai.Meanwhile, India are sweating over an injury scare to the in-form Abhishek Sharma. The flamboyant opener, who smashed 79 off 34 balls, twisted his ankle during a catching drill on Friday.

Ricky Ponting wants Australia to continue with Sam Konstas on Sri Lanka tour

New Delhi. Legendary Australia cricketer Ricky Ponting wants the team management to pick Sam Konstas as an opener for the upcoming Test series against Sri Lanka. Australia are set to take on Sri Lanka in a two-match Test series beginning from January 29 in Galle. Ahead of the rubber, Ponting has backed Konstas to continue as an opener after his remarkable debut against India in the fourth Test of the recent five-match series.The 19-year-old caught everyone's attention with his attacking knock of 60 (65) on debut as he took on India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah and reverse scooped him for boundaries. Ponting said that Konstas deserves a chance to get selected in the playing XI after his



magnificent debut.

"I think they will pick Konstas and I think they should pick Konstas. He is the one they have identified, he has hit the ground running here in his first innings as well. He provided a lot of entertainment and a lot of buzz around that whole series. I think they need to play him, to be honest. It is a hard place to play and a hard place to win," Ponting was quoted as saying by the Sydney Morning Herald.Furthermore, the former captain acknowledged the threat Sri Lankan pitches will pose to the Australian batters and mentioned that it will be a great learning experience for young Konstas.It will be a great learning experience for Konstas: Ponting“‘It will be a hard place to bat for all of our guys, but especially some of the younger guys who have not experienced those conditions much in the past. But I think they should pick him, it will be a great learning experience for him. I would be picking him if I was a selector," he added.Australia have already qualified for the ICC World Test Championship (WTC).

Local boys Sundar and Varun recall fond Chennai memories ahead of 2nd T20I vs ENG

New Delhi. India spinners Washington Sundar and Varun Chakravarthy reminisced about their fond memories in Chennai ahead of the 2nd T20I against England in the city at the MA Chidambaram Stadium. Chakravarthy expressed excitement ahead of playing his first game in Chennai as he recalled his memories of playing at the venue, while Sundar also took a nostalgic trip down memory lane.Both Sundar and Chakravarthy began their cricketing journeys in Chennai playing age group cricket and eventually realised their dream of playing for India. In a video released by the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) on their social media handles, Sundar recalled his early days of playing cricket at the Chepauk and mentioned how he used to pester his father to get tickets for the matches to watch the legends of the game play.“Chepauk is the place where I sort of started playing cricket as well. My dad used



to practice in the other ground, which was used to be called Mac B. I used to pester my dad to get me tickets just for us to be able to come to the stadium and watch some of the legends play over here. It's a very, very special and it's a great moment for all of us to sort of experience,” said Sundar.Furthermore, Chakravarthy also revealed how he left cricket after school and tried his hands at architecture, movie making and other activities before finally making a

comeback again.I wanted to leave cricket, but cricket didn't leave me: Chakravarthy

“I've played a lot of initial selection matches that I never used to get selected, so. Yeah, it's been, one hell of a ride because after school, I completely stopped cricket and I went into different parts, architecture, movie making, and all those different parts. And finally I came back to cricket, as they say, I wanted to leave cricket, but cricket didn't leave me. So that's what happened. And it feels good to be back here and to play in front of my family for India. Definitely, I feel very excited,” said Varun Chakravarthy.

Chakravarthy was adjudged Player of the Match for his sensational spell in the series opener against England in Kolkata as he scalped 3/23 in four overs dismissing Jos Buttler, Harry Brook and Liam Livingstone. He will look to emulate his performance in the second game as well in front of his family.

Harbhajan Singh points out India's major selection blunder for Champions Trophy

NEW DELHI. Former India spinner Harbhajan Singh feels India have done a major selection blunder by not selecting Yuzvendra Chahal in their squad for the upcoming ICC Champions Trophy 2025. The selectors named a spin-heavy 15-member squad for the mega event as they included Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar and Ravindra Jadeja. However, wrist spinner Chahal was nowhere to be found having last represented the country in the 50-over format back in January 2023 during the ODI series against New Zealand.Since then, he hasn't played the format and was also ignored for the ODI World Cup held the same year. Recently, Harbhajan questioned Chahal's absence from the squad and mentioned how selectors could've picked him in the team to add variety to the spin attack as Jadeja and Patel are similar kind of bowlers.“Sanju isn't there. Yuzvendra Chahal isn't there, too. You've picked four spinners, two of them are left-armers. You could've included a leg-spinner for variation, too. Chahal is a superb bowler. I don't know what wrong he did, that



he doesn't fit in this team,” Harbhajan told Switch.In 72 ODI matches played in his career so far, the 34-year-old has picked 121 wickets at an average of 27.13 and an economy of 5.26 with two five-wicket hauls to his name. Chahal was last selected in the Indian team for the T20 World Cup 2024, where he unfortunately warmed the bench for the entire tournament with Axar Patel, Ravindra Jadeja and Kuldeep Yadav being preferred over him in the playing XI.Furthermore, the former off-spinner also expressed dejection at Sanju Samson's snub

from the team and argued that his batting suits the format, mentioning his stellar numbers in ODIs.

Sanju Samson scores runs but he is dropped: Harbhajan“‘Truly, I feel bad for him. He scores runs but he is dropped. I know you can only select 15, but I feel his batting suits the format. He has an average of 55-56, but he isn't even there as a second wicketkeeper. When we talk about selecting him, people ask, in whose place? Places can be made,” he added.Samson has been in remarkable form of late, having scored three centuries in his last six T20I innings. He also slammed a brilliant ton in his last ODI outing against South Africa in December 2023. The 30-year-old boasts an average of 56.66 after 14 innings in ODI cricket with 510 runs to his name at a strike rate of 99.60. He has registered one hundred and three fifties in his career so far, but still his performances haven't been enough to impress the selectors, with Rishabh Pant getting preference over him.

New Zealand pip Bangladesh to seal last direct spot for Women's ODI World Cup 2025

Manoj Tiwary opened up about being unfairly targeted by Gautam Gambhir during their time at Kolkata Knight Riders, detailing strained moments, including a confrontation where Wasim Akram had to intervene.

NEW DELHI. Bangladesh's hopes of securing a direct berth in the 2025 ODI World Cup were dashed after they lost the final match of a three-match series in the West Indies on Friday, January 24. New Zealand pipped Bangladesh to automatic qualification for the



premier tournament, which will be held in India for the first time since 2013.Bangladesh had a great opportunity to seal direct qualification after defeating the West Indies in the second ODI of their series in Basseterre. However, in the series decider,

their batters crumbled under pressure, and they were bundled out for just 118. The West Indies comfortably chased down the target, sealing a 2-1 series victory. The third ODI on Friday was the final match of the ICC Women's Championship series.At the end of

the Women's Championship -- a 10-team tournament in which all teams played eight three-match series, four at home and four away -- the top six teams, including hosts India, secured direct qualification for the World Cup.Bangladesh and New Zealand were tied on 21 points each after 24 matches. However, New Zealand secured the higher position in the standings due to an extra win.Australia topped the Championship with 39 points, while India finished a close second with 37. England (32), South Africa (25), and Sri Lanka (22) are the other teams to have secured direct berths for the World Cup.Bangladesh (21), West Indies (18), Pakistan (17) and Ireland (eight) will be joined in the Cricket World Cup Qualifier by Scotland and Thailand, the two other highest ranked teams as of 31 October 2024.The ICC is yet to announce the dates for the Cricket World Cup qualifier, in which two spots will be up for grabs.



Kriti Sanon

Calls Chhaava Trailer 'Blockbuster', Praises Vicky Kaushal And Rashmika Mandanna's Look

Kriti Sanon is the latest celebrity to praise Vicky Kaushal starrer Chhaava trailer. Taking to social media, Kriti shared her excitement, calling the trailer a "blockbuster" and lauding the impressive looks of the lead pair. Earlier, Arjun Kapoor, Katrina Kaif, and Alia Bhatt have also praised the trailer. The film is all set to release on February 14. Taking to her Instagram stories, Kriti shared the trailer and wrote, "MASSIVE Mega Blockbuster Loading... Goosebumps! @laxman.utekar sir!! Kya baat hai!! Killing it! #Dinoo #MaddockFilms maddockfilms, laxman.utekar, rashmika_mandanna, vickykaushal09 and 07 sonymusicindia @vickykaushal09 looks like your best so far!!! outstanding!! @rashmika_mandanna love the marathi avatar! Royal, elegant and absolutely stunning! Goodluck to the entire team!" Rashmika Mandanna reacted with a cute emoji.



Taking to his Instagram stories, Arjun Kapoor shared the trailer and wrote, "It promises a grand historical spectacle with powerful storytelling and breathtaking visuals... This one deserves to be experienced on the big screen! Don't miss Chhaava in cinemas on 14th February maddockfilms and arrahman @vickykaushal09 @rashmika_mandanna #Akshaye Khanna Bashutosh ramnarayan @divyadutta25 @vineet_ksofficial @dianapenty @santoshjuvekar12 #Dinesh Vijan @laxman.utekar." Earlier, Alia Bhatt also praised the trailer and wrote, "The trailer is absolutely breathtaking. Goosebumps all over. All the best

(red heart emoji)," while tagging Vicky Kaushal and Rashmika Mandanna. Earlier, Katrina Kaif, Vicky's wife, had also praised the trailer on her social media, expressing excitement with, "Outstanding #DineshVijan. This is just (multiple fire emojis)," tagging filmmaker Laxman Utekar, Vicky, Rashmika, and Akshaye. The trailer of Chhaava sets the stage for an intense battle of wills between the Marathas and the Mughals. As the Marathas strive to establish Swaraj, a vision of freedom and safety for all, the Mughal empire stands firm, vowing to crush any rebellion against its dominance. The dialogue crackles with tension, warning of the silent but deadly hunt that awaits those who challenge the empire. Akshaye Khanna's Aurangzeb then goes on to say, "Purey khandaan ki laash par khadey hokar hum ne taaj pehna tha, use dobara usi waqt pehneinge jab uss Sambha ki cheekhein poore Hindustan mein gunjengi." Directed by Laxman Utekar, known for his work in films like Mimi (2021) and Luka Chuppi (2019), Chhaava marks another collaboration between Utekar and Vicky Kaushal following their recent comedy-romance hit Zara Hatke Zara Bachke (2023). Chhaava is a historical drama that revolves around the life of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, the son of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. In the film, Vicky Kaushal is set to portray the character of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, the eldest son of the Maratha empire's founder. The film also stars Ashutosh Rana, and Divya Dutta in key roles.



Kartik Aaryan Waves At Fans During Coldplay Concert In Mumbai



Kartik Aaryan was recently spotted attending Coldplay's concert in Mumbai. The videos and photos of him from the concert are going viral. Amid this, a video surfaced online in which he is seen waving at fans while he waits for the show to begin. Kartik is seen chatting with his other team members. The fan took to his Instagram handle and shared the video in which he is seen asking his other friends also to see Kartik. Suddenly the actor noticed and came forward to wave at them. They were seen screaming with excitement. Many fans dropped heart and fire emojis in the comment section. Kartik Aaryan and his sister, Dr. Kritika Tiwari, joined thousands of Coldplay fans at the band's Music of the Spheres World Tour concert in Navi Mumbai's DY Patil Stadium.

Taking to Instagram, Kartik posted a video capturing the electric atmosphere of the concert and wrote, "Sky Full Of Stars In My College Campus Pure Magic (sic)." The post resonated with his fans, who were thrilled to see the actor enjoying himself at the venue where he once pursued his studies.

Just a few days before the concert, on January 11, Kartik returned to DY Patil College for his convocation ceremony, finally receiving his engineering degree after over a decade. Reflecting on his journey, he shared, "From sitting on the backbench to standing on the stage for my convocation – what a journey it's been. DY Patil University, you gave me memories, dreams, and now, finally, my degree (only took over a decade!)." He expressed gratitude to Vijay Patil, his teachers, and students for the warm welcome he received.

On the professional front, Kartik was last seen in Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 in November 2024. He is currently working on Anurag Basu's upcoming romantic drama alongside Triptii Dimri. Kartik is also set to star in Tu Meri Main Tera, Main Tera Tu Meri, a romantic comedy directed by Sameer Vidwans and produced by Karan Johar's Dharma Productions and Namah Pictures, slated for release in 2026. Reports suggest that Sharvari Wagh will play the female lead. Kartik's journey from being an engineering student from Gwalior to becoming one of Bollywood's most bankable stars is inspiring. Despite having no film connections, he pursued his dream while sharing an apartment with 12 roommates in Mumbai, proving that hard work and perseverance can lead to success.

Akshay Kumar DENIES Going To Bed While Vivek Oberoi Had Dinner At His Place: 'This Doesn't Happen'



Akshay Kumar, who is currently promoting his film Sky Force, was recently asked about his 'early to bed, early to rise' routine and how he manages to socialise. He was specifically asked about an incident where he supposedly went to bed at 9:30 pm while Vivek Oberoi and Riteish Deshmukh were still having dinner at his place. In an interview with , Akshay explained that he is a "very good host" and always sees his guests off to their cars. Refuting Vivek's claim, he said, "No, this doesn't happen. I drop people till their cars. I don't leave them by themselves." He then opened up on parties at his house and said, "I am very good host. We usually don't have parties at home but when we host a party, it's usually an early dinner. People come over, talk a bit, those who want to drink, they drink and then I see them off."

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Earlier, in an interview with the same publication, Vivek praised Akshay's discipline, calling it "commendable" as the actor sticks to his routine without fail. He recalled a dinner at Akshay's house when, at 9:30 pm, Akshay went upstairs. "Akshay is so disciplined that one evening, we were having dinner at his place, and as soon as the clock struck 9:30 pm, he went upstairs. We thought he was just going to the washroom, but he never returned. We kept waiting for him until 11 pm, only for his wife, Twinkle Khanna, to come and tell us, 'You guys should leave now. He's already gone to sleep!' That's how disciplined he is. Hats off to him," he had said.

On the film front, Vivek has three movies lined up, the first being Masti 4. In an earlier chat with Screen, Vivek had opened up on it. "I am having a lot of fun cracking up between me, Riteish, Aftaab, and Induji, Milap Zaveri is directing it," he had said.

Priyanka Chopra

Drops Pics From Balaji Temple Visits As She Begins Shoot For SS Rajamouli's SSMB29

Priyanka Chopra is currently in India for the shoot of her next film with Mahesh Babu. The actress today took to her social handle and shared glimpses of a temple visit ahead of the shoot. The film SSMB29 has been grabbing headlines for a long time. Priyanka was spotted visiting the renowned Balaji temple. Taking to her Instagram stories, Priyanka shared glimpses of the visit. She has not mentioned anything in the caption. Last week also shared photos from the temple visit and wrote, "With the blessings of Shri Balaji, a new chapter begins."

May we all find peace in our hearts and prosperity and abundance all around us. God's grace is infinite." While she didn't offer details on what "new chapter" referred to, some speculated it hinted at her rumored collaboration with SS Rajamouli and Mahesh Babu. In the post, Priyanka appeared effortlessly graceful as she posed at the temple, donning a gorgeous blue suit.

Mahesh Babu and SS Rajamouli's highly anticipated film SSMB29 is officially underway. While the spotlight has been on this exciting pairing of Mahesh Babu and Priyanka Chopra, the film promises to bring together a diverse array of talented artists from around the world. However, the full list of cast and crew is yet to be revealed, leaving fans eagerly awaiting more updates.

SSMB29 is set to be produced in two parts, with the first instalment expected to release in 2027 and the second instalment by 2029.

Mahesh Babu will be playing the male lead. Malayalam actor Prithviraj Sukumaran will be playing the antagonist in the film. It is rumoured that Mahesh Babu's character would be inspired



by Lord Hanuman. This film promises to feature stunning visuals and engaging storytelling like never before. The official pooja ceremony for this SSMB29 was held on January 2. The ceremony was held strictly private, and no pictures or glimpses from the same were released by the makers.

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गुरु 02	रवि 02	रवि 02	बुध 02
शुक्र 03	सोम 03	सोम 03	गुरु 03
शनि 04	मंगल 04	मंगल 04	शुक्र 04
रवि 05	बुध 05	बुध 05	शनि 05
सोम 06	गुरु 06	गुरु 06	रवि 06
मंगल 07	शुक्र 07	शुक्र 07	सोम 07
बुध 08	शनि 08	शनि 08	मंगल 08
गुरु 09	रवि 09	रवि 09	बुध 09
शुक्र 10	सोम 10	सोम 10	गुरु 10
शनि 11	मंगल 11	मंगल 11	शुक्र 11
रवि 12	बुध 12	बुध 12	शनि 12
सोम 13	गुरु 13	गुरु 13	रवि 13

MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
गुरु 01	रवि 01	मंगल 01	शुक्र 01
शुक्र 02	सोम 02	बुध 02	शनि 02
शनि 03	मंगल 03	गुरु 03	रवि 03
रवि 04	बुध 04	शुक्र 04	सोम 04
सोम 05	गुरु 05	शनि 05	मंगल 05
मंगल 06	शुक्र 06	रवि 06	बुध 06
बुध 07	शनि 07	सोम 07	गुरु 07
गुरु 08	रवि 08	मंगल 08	शुक्र 08
शुक्र 09	सोम 09	बुध 09	शनि 09
शनि 10	मंगल 10	गुरु 10	रवि 10
रवि 11	बुध 11	शुक्र 11	सोम 11

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
सोम 01	बुध 01	शनि 01	सोम 01
मंगल 02	गुरु 02	रवि 02	मंगल 02
बुध 03	शुक्र 03	सोम 03	बुध 03
गुरु 04	शनि 04	मंगल 04	गुरु 04
शुक्र 05	रवि 05	बुध 05	शुक्र 05
शनि 06	सोम 06	गुरु 06	शनि 06
रवि 07	मंगल 07	शुक्र 07	रवि 07
सोम 08	बुध 08	शनि 08	सोम 08
मंगल 09	गुरु 09	रवि 09	मंगल 09
बुध 10	शुक्र 10	सोम 10	बुध 10
गुरु 11	शनि 11	मंगल 11	गुरु 11
शुक्र 12	रवि 12	बुध 12	शुक्र 12
शनि 13	सोम 13	गुरु 13	शनि 13
रवि 14	मंगल 14	शुक्र 14	सोम 14
सोम 15	बुध 15	रवि 15	मंगल 15
मंगल 16	गुरु 16	शुक्र 16	बुध 16
बुध 17	शनि 17	शनि 17	गुरु 17
गुरु 18	शुक्र 18	सोम 18	शुक्र 18
शुक्र 19	रवि 19	मंगल 19	रवि 19
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गुरु 16	रवि 16	रवि 16	रवि 16
शुक्र 17	सोम 17	सोम 17	सोम 17
शनि 18	मंगल 18	मंगल 18	मंगल 18
रवि 19	बुध 19	बुध 19	बुध 19
सोम 20	गुरु 20	गुरु 20	गुरु 20
मंगल 21	शुक्र 21	शुक्र 21	शुक्र 21
बुध 22	शनि 22	शनि 22	शनि 22
गुरु 23	सोम 23	सोम 23	सोम 23
शुक्र 24	मंगल 24	मंगल 24	मंगल 24
शनि 25	बुध 25	बुध 25	बुध 25
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सोम 27	गुरु 27	गुरु 27	गुरु 27
मंगल 28	शुक्र 28	शुक्र 28	शुक्र 28
बुध 29	शनि 29	शनि 29	शनि 29
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गुरु 27	सोम 27	सोम 27	सोम 27
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गुरु 20	शुक्र 20	शनि 20	सोम 20
शुक्र 21	मंगल 21	बुध 21	गुरु 21
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शुक्र 28	शनि 28	सोम 28	मंगल 28
शनि 29	गुरु 29	शुक्र 29	शनि 29
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