



Jacqueline Fernandez And...

SHARE	
सेंसेक्स	: 82,948.23
निफ्टी	: 25,377.55

SARAFSA	
सोना	: 6,795
चांदी	: 98.05

(नोट : सोना 22 कैरेट प्रति ग्राम)

BRIEF NEWS

अक्षय व कैटरिना कैफ ने संगम में लगाई डुबकी

PRAYAGRAJ : सोमवार को महाकुंभ का 43वां दिन था। मेला खत्म होने में अब सिर्फ 2 दिन और बचे हैं। सोमवार को शाम 4 बजे तक 1.05 लाख से ज्यादा लोगों ने स्नान किया। संगम स्टेशन से लेकर संगम तक भीड़ ज्यादा थी। दोपहर तक भीड़ कम होना शुरू हो गई। 13 जनवरी से अब तक 62.97 करोड़ श्रद्धालु संगम में डुबकी लगा चुके हैं। बॉलीवुड एक्टर अक्षय कुमार ने संगम स्नान किया। एक्ट्रेस कैटरिना कैफ भी महाकुंभ पहुंचीं। उन्होंने परमार्थ निकेतन शिविर में स्वामी चिदानंद सरस्वती और साध्वी भगवती सरस्वती का आशीर्वाद लिया। इस बीच आज प्रयागराज में एंटी पॉइंट पर पार्किंग के आसपास जाम की स्थिति है।

70% रक्षा सामग्री खुद बना रहा भारत : राजनाथ सिंह

MANDI : सोमवार को हिमाचल प्रदेश के मंत्री आईआईटी में केन्द्रीय रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने कहा कि भारत अब 70 प्रतिशत रक्षा सामग्री का निर्माण खुद कर रहा है। पहले 70 प्रतिशत सामग्री आयात करनी पड़ती थी। उन्होंने कहा, भारत ने अब रक्षा सामग्री का निर्माण शुरू कर दिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि वर्ष 2023-24 में 23 हजार करोड़ रुपये की रक्षा सामग्री का निर्माण ही है। 2029 तक इसे बढ़ाकर 50 हजार करोड़ रुपये तक पहुंचाने का लक्ष्य रखा है। राजनाथ ने कहा, आईआईटी मंडी पहले से ही डीआरडीओ के साथ मिलकर रक्षा क्षेत्र में काम कर रहा है।

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI :

सोमवार को झारखंड विधानसभा का बजट सत्र शुरू हुआ। पहले दिन राज्यपाल संतोष गंगवार ने अभिभाषण में राज्य सरकार की उपलब्धियों, योजनाओं और भविष्य की प्राथमिकताओं का खाका खींचा। राज्यपाल ने कहा कि सरकार बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास पर विशेष ध्यान दे रही है। सड़कों, पुलों और रेलवे कनेक्टिविटी में सुधार के लिए विभिन्न परियोजनाएं चलाई जा रही हैं। सरकार सुशासन और जनकल्याण पर विशेष फोकस फोकस कर रही है। सुशासन हमारे लिए सिर्फ शब्द नहीं है। हमने इसे अच्छे लागू किया है। हमारी सरकार राज्य को भ्रष्टाचार से मुक्त करेगी। कानून का राज सरकार की प्राथमिकता है। राज्यपाल ने अभिभाषण में कहा कि सरकार सभी वर्गों के विकास के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है और आम जनता की भलाई को प्राथमिकता दे रही है। अबुआ आवास, मईयां सम्मान योजना से राज्य में बदलाव देखने को मिलता है। भ्रष्टाचार को जड़ से मिटाने के संदर्भ में राज्यपाल ने कहा कि राज्य की विकास यात्रा में भ्रष्टाचार एक बड़ी समस्या है। उन्होंने बताया कि झारखंड सरकार ने राज्य को भ्रष्टाचार मुक्त करने के लिए संकल्पित है। सरकारी तंत्रों में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार पर अधिक प्रभावशाली तरीके से अंकुश लगाया जा रहा है। साथ ही भ्रष्टाचार के आरोपों में कुल 69 कांड दर्ज किए गए। इसमें से 45 कांडों का निष्पादन किया गया। 52 सफल ट्रेप किए गए हैं। भ्रष्टाचार के विभिन्न आरोपों में कुल 56 लोकसेवकों को गिरफ्तार भी किया गया है।

प्रभावशाली तरीके से अंकुश लगाया जा रहा है। साथ ही भ्रष्टाचार के आरोपों में कुल 69 कांड दर्ज किए गए। इसमें से 45 कांडों का निष्पादन किया गया। 52 सफल ट्रेप किए गए हैं। भ्रष्टाचार के विभिन्न आरोपों में कुल 56 लोकसेवकों को गिरफ्तार भी किया गया है।

शर्मनाक : एसपी ने की घटना की पुष्टि 18 दरिंदों ने 5 नाबालिगों को बनाया हवस का शिकार

PHOTON NEWS KHUNTI : जिले को एक बार फिर शर्मशांश कर देने वाली घटना सामने आई है। रनिया में पांच नाबालिग आदिवासी लड़कियों के साथ सामूहिक दुष्कर्म का मामला सामने आया है। 18 नाबालिग युवकों ने इस वारदात को अंजाम दिया है। घटना शुक्रवार देर रात की रनिया थाना क्षेत्र की बताई जा रही है। एसपी क्रिस्टोफर केरकेट्ट ने इस घटना की पुष्टि की है। उन्होंने कहा कि पांच नाबालिग आदिवासी लड़कियों के साथ गैरपेश की घटना हुई है। मामले की गंभीरता को देखते हुए अनुसंधान तेज कर दिया गया है। मामले में 18 लड़कों को हिरासत में लिया गया है। जल्द ही पूरे मामले का उद्घेदन कर लिया जाएगा। बताया जा रहा है कि रनिया थाना क्षेत्र में कारो नदी के पास सभी लड़कियां एक शादी समारोह में शामिल होकर अपने घर लौट रही थीं। इसी दौरान रास्ते में 18 नाबालिग लड़कों ने रनिया थाना क्षेत्र में शादी से लौटने के दौरान वारदात को दिया गया अंजाम

लड़कियों को घेर लिया। हालांकि एक लड़की किसी तरह वहां से भाग निकली। इसके बाद आरोपियों ने पांच नाबालिगों के साथ बारी-बारी से सामूहिक दुष्कर्म की वारदात को अंजाम दिया।

राज्य के अफसर तेलंगाना के सीएस और अन्य अधिकारियों के संपर्क में तेलंगाना टनल हादसे में फंसे झारखंड के श्रमिकों पर सरकार की नजर : सीएम

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : तेलंगाना के नागरकुनूल जिले में श्रीशैलम लेफ्ट बैंक केनाल टनल में हुए हादसे में झारखंड के श्रमिकों के फंसे होने की जानकारी मिलने के बाद राज्य सरकार ने त्वरित कदम उठाए हैं। सोमवार को मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन ने विधानसभा परिसर में मीडिया से बात करते हुए कहा कि राज्य सरकार इस मामले को लेकर गंभीर है और तेलंगाना सरकार से लगातार संपर्क में है। उन्होंने बताया कि राज्य के आला अधिकारी तेलंगाना के मुख्य सचिव और अन्य प्रशासनिक अधिकारियों के संपर्क में है। जल्द ही स्थिति स्पष्ट हो जाएगी। सीएम ने यह भी कहा कि राज्य प्रवासी नियंत्रण कक्ष द्वारा तेलंगाना सरकार से लगातार संवाद किया जा रहा है और बचाव कार्य पर पूरी नजर रखी जा रही है।



गुमला के पालकोट, कुंबाटोली, घाघरा और करुंदी के मजदूर शामिल

मुख्यमंत्री से धार्मिक स्थलों को बचाने की मांग
मुख्यमंत्री से सोमवार को झारखंड विधान सभा में विभिन्न सरना समिति और आदिवासी संगठन के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने मुलाकात की। इस अवसर पर मुख्यमंत्री को प्रतिनिधिमंडल के सदस्यों ने आदिवासियों के सामाजिक, धार्मिक एवं सांस्कृतिक स्थलों के संरक्षण से संबंधित कुछ मांगों से अवगत कराया। वहीं धार्मिक स्थलों को बचाने की मांग मुख्यमंत्री से की। इस दौरान मंत्री चमरा लिंडा, विधायक राजेश कच्छ्य सहित सरना प्रार्थना सभा रांची महानगर, केन्द्रीय सरना समिति, आदिवासी विकास परिषद, आदिवासी छात्र संघ, जय आदिवासी परिषद, आदिवासी जन परिषद एवं सिरम टोली सरना समिति के प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित थे। सभी मजदूर लंबे समय से तेलंगाना में काम कर रहे थे।

छतीसगढ़ में सुरक्षा बलों के सामने इनामी नक्सली दंपती ने किया सरेंडर

NARAYANPUR : सोमवार को छत्तीसगढ़ के नारायणपुर जिले में सुरक्षाबलों के सामने दो इनामी नक्सलियों ने आत्मसमर्पण किया है। पुलिस अधिकारियों ने सोमवार को यह जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि महाराष्ट्र और छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत भोरमदेव एरिया कमेटी के सक्रिय माओवादी सुदेन कोराम उर्फ जनुकु तथा उसकी पत्नी सरिता पोटावी उर्फ करिमा ने सुरक्षाबलों के सामने आज आत्मसमर्पण कर दिया। उन्होंने बताया कि इन नक्सलियों के सिर पर पांच-पांच लाख रुपये का इनाम घोषित है। पुलिस अधिकारियों ने बताया कि नक्सलियों ने माओवादियों की श्रृंखला में शामिल होने का फैसला किया। उन्होंने बताया कि आत्मसमर्पण करने वाले नक्सलियों को 25-25 हजार रुपये की प्रोत्साहन राशि दी गई है तथा उन्हें नक्सल उन्मूलन नीति के तहत अन्य सुविधाएं भी प्रदान की जाएगी।

महत्व की जानकारी नहीं होने से प्रोटीनयुक्त खाद्य पदार्थों का नहीं किया जाता सेवन शोध से यह पता चलता है कि कुपोषण केवल आर्थिक असमर्थता का परिणाम नहीं

इस पोषक तत्व की पर्याप्त उपलब्धता के बावजूद होती है अनदेखी

6 राज्यों और 9 जिलों के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को शोध में किया गया है शामिल

सामान्य रूप से आहार में प्रोटीन के मुख्य स्रोत दालों की हो जाती है कमी

खान-पान की पारंपरिक आदतें

नए अध्ययन में यह बताया गया है कि ऐसा नहीं है कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के लोग भारतीय दालें, डेयरी, अंडे और मांस जैसे पर्याप्त प्रोटीनयुक्त खाद्य पदार्थ नहीं खरीद सकते या उनका उत्पादन नहीं कर सकते। यहां प्रोटीन युक्त खाद्य पदार्थों जैसे दालें, डेयरी उत्पाद, अंडे और मांस का सेवन इसलिए नहीं हो रहा, क्योंकि लोग इनके महत्व से अनजान हैं। इस शोध ने इस धारणा को चलेगा किया गया है कि कुपोषण केवल आर्थिक असमर्थता का परिणाम है। इसके बजाय, यह खान-पान की पारंपरिक आदतों और पोषण संबंधी जानकारी के अभाव के कारण होता है। इस अध्ययन से यह नई जानकारी सामने आई है कि जिन परिवारों में महिलाएं शिक्षित थीं, वहां संतुलित आहार अपनाने की संभावना अधिक है। महिला शिक्षा के माध्यम से पोषण की समझ कम करने में मदद मिल सकती है।

चावल और गेहूं का उपयोग ज्यादा

शोध में 6 राज्यों और 9 जिलों के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को शामिल किया गया। स्टडी से यह जानकारी मिली है कि इन इलाकों में मोजन में मुख्य रूप से चावल और गेहूं जैसे अनाज का उपयोग अधिक किया जाता है। वे दैनिक प्रोटीन स्रोत का 60 से 75 फीसद हिस्सा उपलब्ध कराते हैं।

'इतिहास में पहली बार भारत को लेकर इतनी आशावादी है दुनिया'



BHOPAL @ PTI : सोमवार को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने कहा कि मजबूत प्रतिभाओं तथा फलते-फूलते उद्योगों के साथ मध्यप्रदेश एक पसंदीदा व्यापार स्थल बन रहा है और राज्य में निवेश करने का यह सही समय है। 'निवेश मध्य प्रदेश- वैश्विक निवेशक शिखर सम्मेलन 2025' का उद्घाटन करने के बाद मोदी ने कहा, भारत के इतिहास में पहली बार ऐसा अवसर आया है, जब पूरी दुनिया इसको लेकर इतनी आशावादी है। उन्होंने कहा कि आम लोग और अर्थशास्त्री, दुनिया भर के देश तथा संस्थान भारत के बारे में आशावादी हैं और उन्हें भारत से बहुत उम्मीदें हैं। इस सम्मेलन का उद्देश्य निवेशकों और उद्योगपतियों के लिए मध्यप्रदेश की असीम संभावनाओं को प्रदर्शित करना है।

उद्योगों के साथ, मध्य प्रदेश एक पसंदीदा व्यवसाय स्थल बन रहा है। उन्होंने कहा, मध्य प्रदेश में डबल इंजन सरकार बनने के बाद विकास का यह सही समय है। 'निवेश मध्य प्रदेश- वैश्विक निवेशक शिखर सम्मेलन 2025' का उद्घाटन करने के बाद मोदी ने कहा, भारत के इतिहास में पहली बार ऐसा अवसर आया है, जब पूरी दुनिया इसको लेकर इतनी आशावादी है। उन्होंने कहा कि आम लोग और अर्थशास्त्री, दुनिया भर के देश तथा संस्थान भारत के बारे में आशावादी हैं और उन्हें भारत से बहुत उम्मीदें हैं। इस सम्मेलन का उद्देश्य निवेशकों और उद्योगपतियों के लिए मध्यप्रदेश की असीम संभावनाओं को प्रदर्शित करना है।

मध्य प्रदेश की 18 नीतियों का अनावरण

मोदी ने कहा, पिछले 10 सालों में अक्षय ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में लगभग 70 अरब डॉलर, यानी 5000 अरब रुपये से अधिक का निवेश किया गया है। पिछले वर्ष ही, खरक ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में 10 लाख से अधिक नौकरियां उत्पन्न हुईं। ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में इस उछाल से मध्यप्रदेश को बहुत लाभ हुआ है। प्रधानमंत्री ने मध्य प्रदेश सरकार की 18 नई नीतियों का भी अनावरण किया, जिनका उद्देश्य भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) शासित राज्य में बड़े पैमाने पर निवेश आकर्षित करना है। मोदी ने कहा, बेहतरीन प्रतिभाओं और संज्ञन

The transformation more women teachers could bring

The participation of women in India's teaching workforce has seen a significant transformation over the years. According to the latest data from the Unified District Information System for Education, the number of women school teachers increased from 47.1 lakh (49.98 percent) in 2018-19 to 52.3 lakh (53.34 percent) in 2023-24. Women first surpassed the halfway mark in 2019-20, and their representation has steadily grown.

However, disparities persist between private and government schools, with private institutions showing a higher rate of women teacher participation—a 20 percent rise in recent years. Important reasons for this could be their urban-centric locations, which reduce commuting challenges and perhaps better facilities. However, these positions often come with lower salaries, reflecting societal perceptions of women as secondary income earners. Among government schools, states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Punjab lead in female teacher representation—at 78, 67 and 64 percent of the respective totals.

Higher education remains a male-dominated domain. Data from the 2021-22 All India Survey on Higher Education shows that women constitute only 43 percent of faculty members. Globally, women dominate teaching roles in primary and secondary education but face a significant drop in tertiary education. According to Unesco, 68 percent of primary and 54 percent of secondary teachers are women, but only 41 percent of tertiary educators are female. In countries like Latvia and Russia, women represent over 80 percent of primary teachers, while in Sub-Saharan Africa, the figure drops to 41 percent due to systemic and cultural barriers. In India, women's underrepresentation in higher education reflects deeper societal biases, such as gender discrimination, lack of mentorship, and the disproportionate burden of household responsibilities.

Many scholarly studies have demonstrated the positive impact of female teachers on students' academic and emotional development. Women bring unique strengths such as empathy, communication skills and nurturing abilities that foster supportive learning environments. Moreover, gender balance among teachers reflects an equitable and inclusive society, and research shows that students, particularly girls, perform better when taught by female educators. Female teachers also play a critical role in addressing sensitive issues like menstruation taboos and child marriage, which often impede girls' education in developing countries. However, systemic challenges such as inadequate salaries, unsafe transportation, workplace harassment, and expensive certification processes deter women from entering or advancing in the teaching profession. The dual burden of professional and household responsibilities further limits their capacity for career growth. To address these challenges, institutions must implement family-friendly policies, such as flexible work hours and childcare support. Governments must adopt targeted measures to address these barriers and promote gender equity in education. Providing housing allowances, transport facilities, and enhanced safety measures for women in remote schools can significantly improve their participation. Expanding financial aid for women pursuing education degrees and offering leadership training can empower women to take on administrative roles.

Bangladesh's initiative to provide stipends for female teachers in rural areas is a successful model worthy of emulation. Addressing regional disparities and incentivising women's participation in underrepresented areas would not only improve gender parity but also enhance the overall quality of education. In early childhood and primary education, female teachers are particularly effective. Studies in educational psychology highlight that classrooms led by female teachers show a 20 percent higher rate of inclusive participation. Women often integrate social-emotional learning and employ cooperative teaching methods that cater to the diverse needs of students.

Rooting for distinct branches on a strong tree

This wasn't the first time that the separation of powers was questioned while selecting the chief election commissioner. Where should the line be drawn, by whom?

India's 26th Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) has taken charge. There was expected political noise before and during the appointment of Gyanesh Kumar, and that noise is not to be frowned upon in a democracy. One has to only see the combativeness of the confirmation process for President Donald Trump's nominees in the US to value this noise. Having said that, let us get into the quality of the noise generated. Rahul Gandhi, who was on the panel to select the CEC, handed over a dissent note. His primary objection was that the selection panel should have included the Chief Justice of India (CJI), or the government should have waited until the top court decided on a petition that demanded it. The matter was to come up before the court on February 19 (it was not posted for judgement though), but the sitting CEC was retiring on February 18. Therefore, the selection panel met a day before to pick a new CEC. The government's outer layer of defence was in this chronology.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court did not seem to be in any great hurry to hear the petition on February 19. It was reported that both the judge who was to hear it and the solicitor general were tied up with other cases. For some perspective, in a March 2023 judgement, the Supreme Court had included the CJI as a member of the selection panel, but the government had overturned this instantly by amending the law. Interestingly, on February 15, in what looked like perfect timing in a perfect setting, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, speaking at the National Judicial Academy, raised a larger issue of principle. He asked if a CJI should get himself involved in executive appointments. He said the involvement of the judiciary in executive matters presented a "constitutional paradox". He felt there was a need to ensure each institution operated within its own domain. It was a valid question, and an assertion of the separation of powers.

The Dinesh Goswami committee in 1990 had not only recommended that the election commission be a multi-member body, but had also said the CJI should be on the panel to pick the CEC. From 1993 on, the commission became a multi-member body, but no government allowed the CJI to sit on the selection panel. The apparent reasoning here could be, as much as the CEC is expected to be non-partisan, shouldn't the CJI also be kept free from the worldly business of appointments so that he is not mixed up when petitions against the CEC and the

election body lands up before him? Also, if one were to implicitly trust the neutrality of the chair that the CJI occupies, then by definition such trust should be extended to the CEC too. It is entirely possible that the chair quietly places the weight of history and legacy on the occupant and enables him to act independently. At least, that is the trust with which a democracy operates.

When such is the case, should Rahul Gandhi have merely dissented, which is his right, or implant doubt as he did? He had said the CEC appointment was a "midnight operation". Are the two—doubt and dissent—same or is there a line of separation? In the recent past, Gandhi has had a problem with all things related to

was made the CEC after Gopalaswami's retirement in 2009. Chawla went on to handle the 2009 general election in which, incidentally, the Congress-led coalition retained power. But tragically, under another CEC they appointed, V S Sampath, the Congress coalition was swept out of power in 2014. Similarly, under a CEC the Modi regime appointed in 2018, they saw a spectacular victory in 2019, but under another CEC they appointed in 2022, Rajiv Kumar, they saw an embarrassing loss of majority in 2024.

From 1950 till 1993, the election commission had only a CEC. When the Narasimha Rao government made it a multi-member body, the then strongman-CEC, T N Seshan, opposed the move in the Supreme Court, but lost. Making the CEC a multi-member body was in line with what the Goswami committee had recommended. The commission was indebted to the Justice V M Tarkunde committee that had worked under the guidance of Jayaprakash Narayan in 1974, just when the Emergency was looming.

One part of the Emergency's history is about election fraud petitions and doubts about the overseeing body. After the 1971 elections that gave Indira Gandhi a massive win, there were multiple petitions in the Supreme Court, and the one by Jan Sangh leader Balraj Madhok was particularly sensational because he charged Indira Gandhi with using chemicalised ballots.

The assignments CECs undertook post retirement have also created retrospective doubt on their non-partisan attitude. After all the talk of uprightness, T N Seshan in 1999 contested the Lok

Sabha elections on a Congress ticket against Advani. M S Gill became a minister in the Manmohan Singh government, and V S Rama Devi became a governor. Despite these examples, appointments made by the executive branch have had diverse representation and wider accountability than one directed by the judiciary. For instance, the story of J M Lyngdoh's appointment as election commissioner in 1997 by H D Deve Gowda was a culmination of his peculiar search for a Northeastern Christian candidate. Gowda wanted to signal to the Northeast, where he had politically and emotionally invested heavily, that he had their interests at heart. Lyngdoh turned out to be a shining example of probity and public service. Nobody complained about Deve Gowda.



elections—electronic voting machines, electoral rolls, the integrity of the election commission, and now, the appointment of a new CEC. To add to this, there is the story of foreign funds to boost voter turnout. To the ghost of George Soros there is now the appendage of USAID.

In all fairness, Rahul Gandhi is not the only leader of opposition to embrace distrust wholesomely. L K Advani, as leader of opposition, cast deep doubts on any and all actions of the Sonia Gandhi-Manmohan Singh regime. For instance, Navin Chawla as both an election commissioner and CEC stoked controversy. As a commissioner, he was accused of unabashedly siding with the Congress by his own boss, N Gopalaswami, the CEC. Gopalaswami wrote to the president seeking his dismissal. Not only was he not dismissed, but Chawla

Surprise choice

BJP snubs top aspirants for Delhi CM's post



Parvesh, son of former Delhi CM Sahib Singh Verma, presumed that he had done enough to bag the top post

In recent years, the BJP has developed a knack for springing a surprise while selecting chief ministers. Delhi is no exception. The party has picked first-time MLA and former councillor Rekha Gupta, dashing the hopes of prominent aspirants like ex-MP Parvesh Verma and three-time MLA Vijendra Gupta. The choice bears the Sangh stamp — Rekha cut her political teeth on the platform of the ABVP, the RSS-affiliated student organisation. The BJP is expecting her to go all out to implement the women-centric schemes spelt out in the party manifesto. These schemes, including the monthly aid of Rs 2,500 each for Delhi's women — Rs 400 more than what the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) promised — played a key role in the BJP's remarkable victory. The decision to choose a lesser-known face underscores the party's strategy to sideline heavyweights, who might become too big for their boots if they are given the all-important chair.

when he defeated AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal. Vijendra, who has now been elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, was also fancying his chances after achieving a hat-trick of wins. Both have no option now but to help the CM run the government smoothly, thanks to the party top brass' ability to nip discord in the bud. The template of preferring a low-profile, compliant CM has been tried out by the BJP with success in several states, such as Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Haryana. Yogi Adityanath is a rare one who can hold his own before PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, even as party chief JP Nadda himself remains relegated to the shadows. An impression has gained ground that double-engine governments are being run largely from the Capital. The Rekha Gupta-led dispensation is set to take the same route. And there will be no scope for excuses if the new Delhi government fails to meet the people's great expectations.

Don't choke education budget to enforce NEP

There is near-unanimous consensus in Tamil Nadu against the three-language formula the Centre is trying to enforce through the National Education Policy. Holding back funds allocated for education in the state amounts to coercion

School education has been the subject of many disputes in India, particularly regarding what and how to teach. One recent dispute involves Chief Minister M K Stalin's strong condemnation of the Union government for reallocating funds intended for Tamil Nadu under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) scheme to other, BJP-ruled states. This is not an isolated incident. More and more states ruled by opposition parties have accused the Centre of discrimination in distributing discretionary transfers. The funds due for Tamil Nadu under the SSA were not released on the pretext that the state government had not signed a memorandum for implementing the PM-Shri schools, which requires implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) in Tamil Nadu—which this state and many others have vehemently opposed. Freezing funds that constitute 7-8 percent of the state school education budget to impose a centralising agenda of the Union Government, which directly impacts lakhs of students, isn't just a blot on federalistic ethos, but is also a travesty of Indian democracy. Denying a state funds recommended by the constitutionally mandated 15th Finance Commission—unless it complies with the Centre's arbitrary and legally non-binding policies—is nothing short of authoritarian coercion. The Tamil Nadu government has been implementing a number of commendable aspects of the NEP through schemes such as Ennum Ezhuthum (for foundational literacy and numeracy), Pudhumai Penn (guidance for girl students to get into higher education), and the CM Breakfast scheme, many of which pre-date the NEP's rollout. On a number of fronts the state has surpassed NEP targets. For instance, the NEP aims to achieve a 50 percent gross enrolment ratio by 2030. But Tamil Nadu's GER in 2022 was already 51 percent, making it almost a decade ahead

in implementation. The Tamil Nadu government has primarily objected to the NEP on two grounds: the three-language policy with significant curricular changes, and implementing the 5+3+4 system. Imposition of the three-language formula is being viewed as a measure to pave the way for Hindi to enter through the backdoor. A 2022 information request revealed that the Kendriya Vidyalayas in Tamil Nadu did not have a single Tamil Teacher. Paragraph 4.5 of the NEP initially states, "The three languages learned by children will be the choice of states and of course the students themselves." But a later part of the clause adds, "so long as at least two of the three languages are native to India". One can only assume that the other language would mostly be Hindi, and not Odia or Bengali. This is why many states such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka fear imposition of Hindi through manipulative mechanisms.

But this should not be viewed as a measure to deprive individuals of the opportunity to learn Hindi or any other language. The Dravidian parties in Tamil Nadu have never opposed the voluntary learning of Hindi or any other language—they only oppose their direct or indirect imposition. On the contrary, with 5,80,000 students appearing for the Prathmik exams in 2024, Tamil Nadu

has a legacy of large cohorts voluntarily choosing to learn Hindi. Another poignant question is why an education policy should deprive individuals of the freedom to learn international languages such as German, Japanese or Mandarin, given their strong economies face significant labour shortages and are seeking both skilled and unskilled workers from India.



This is pertinent because the Union government is insisting on liberal work visa regimes while negotiating trade agreements with various countries. Limiting access to foreign language learning, thus, impedes its

own policy objectives. In Tamil Nadu, opposition to the three-language formula is not solely from the ruling party—it has garnered near-unanimous support across party lines, which should be understood as an expression of the collective will of the state's polity. The second point of contention is the NEP's recommendation to conduct public examinations for students in the third, fifth and eighth grades. The World Bank's research has identified that in developing economies, failing school exams is the biggest factor contributing to higher dropout rates, particularly among girls. So, to achieve high literacy, Tamil Nadu decided to introduce the first public exam after the 10th grade. This policy has ensured that the state maintains the highest GER for girls in the higher secondary.

The Centre's approach of directly imposing its ideological agenda on elected state governments through schools reinforces a centralisation fetish that we have seen increase over the last 10 years. The states that were denied funds—Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and West Bengal—are among the top performing states on NEP objectives that include bridging gender and social gaps as well as promoting equal opportunities. Instead of incentivising states that have performed well, the Centre is penalising them. Tamil Nadu is already squeezed for funds, receiving back only 29 paise for every '1 it contributes to the central kitty. Denial of apportioned funds to such a top-performing state will only hinder India's growth. Countries can prosper only when individual states thrive. What they require is more autonomy and solutions tailor-made for their socio-economic growth.

Meta rewards executives with 200% bonuses despite ongoing job cuts

New Delhi. Just a week after laying off 3,600 employees, Meta has decided to give its top executives a big pay boost. According to a corporate filing, the company has increased executive bonuses to 200% of their base salary, more than double the previous 75%.

The decision was approved on February 13, 2025 by Meta's Compensation, Nominating, and Governance Committee (CNGC). However, the new bonus structure does not include CEO Mark Zuckerberg. The company justified the hike by saying that its executive pay was falling behind industry standards, reported Moneycontrol. Meta's board argued that, before the increase, the "target total cash compensation" for its executives was "at or below the 15th percentile of the target total cash compensation of executives holding similar positions" at other major tech firms. Following the increase, Meta said, "the target total cash compensation for the named executive officers (other than the CEO) falls at approximately the 50th percentile of the Peer Group Target Cash Compensation." The company defended the move, saying it was necessary to retain top talent and keep compensation competitive. However, the timing of the announcement has led to criticism.

The announcement comes soon after Meta laid off around 5% of its global workforce. The company said the job cuts were due to "low performance," but many employees and industry watchers have criticised the decision, especially given the large executive payouts. Despite the layoffs, Meta is increasing its presence in India, particularly in Bengaluru. The company is actively hiring for 41 engineering positions in the city, focusing on software development, machine learning, and chip design for its data centres.

Meta has posted several job openings on LinkedIn in the past month, showing its push to build an engineering hub in India. The company is also looking for an "experienced Engineering Director" to lead its India-based team, a role that Meta describes as important for shaping its technical vision in the country. Unlike its offices in Hyderabad, Gurgaon, New Delhi, and Mumbai, which mainly handle non-engineering roles, the Bengaluru office will be a key technology centre. It will support Meta's Enterprise Engineering team, which focuses on internal tools rather than public-facing products like Facebook and Instagram.

Ease of doing business still long way from bottom-up levels: Hiranandani

New Delhi. The Hiranandani group is lining up around Rs 7,000 crore in five projects in and around the megalopolis in the next two fiscal years. In an interaction with Benn Kochuveedan, group chairman Niranjan Hiranandani says though the government push for improving the ease of doing business has been a success from the top-level, a lot needs to improve from the bottom-up levels where all industries face inordinate delays even today. An excerpt:

How has been your experience as a builder of iconic townships since the government pushed on improving the ease of doing business at the ground level? Has your life really changed as in being projected?

Of course, there is palpable change at the top level. But I will stick my neck out and say the desired changes, when looked at from a bottom-up level, is much to be wanted. A lot needs to change from the ground level and upwards. This is not my experience alone, this is what every other builder, every other industrialist, who are still flitting in and flitting out of the myriad government offices, face. Let me repeat, a lot has positively changed from the top for sure, because the prime minister himself has been driving it, but the actual change, which has to be at the ground level, which can really make the real difference, is still missing badly.

What are your suggestions so that there is actual ease of doing business? My answer is that let the change happen at those levels who actually issue the permissions. You have made a shift in your approach to building townships by tying up with a little-known Pune developer called Krisala for developing a posh residential township in the Pune IT hub of Hinjewadi? What is the rationale for this model? Will this be your model going forward? My short answer is yes and no. But my long answer is that as the market evolves, we will also need to evolve. In the management of Krisala, I've seen the urge which I had 25-30 years ago. So this is a win-win for both of us. I have been owning this 105 acres since 2008 and wanted to make it as big and or even bigger than my Powai, Thane or Panvel projects; but could not make it happen so far. So in Krisala I found a group of young people who also share my vision of building large townships.

Adani Group paid Rs 58,000 crore in global taxes in Fy24

NEW DELHI. The Adani group, which has constantly come under scrutiny over its business practices, has said that the group's listed entities paid Rs 58,104 crore in taxes and other contributions to government exchequer in 2023-24, showing a 25% gain year-on-year. The company claimed that it has paid Rs 46,610 crore in global taxes in the previous year. The information was released through what it called a "Tax Transparency Report" for the financial year 2023-24. The report covers the group's listed entities—Adani Enterprises Limited, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited, Adani Green Energy Limited, Adani Energy Solutions Limited, Adani Power Limited, Adani Total Gas Limited, and Ambuja Cements Limited. The figure also includes the tax paid by three other listed companies—NDTV, ACC and Sanghi Industries—that are held by the seven companies.

"Transparency is the foundation of trust, and trust is essential for sustainable growth," said Gautam Adani, Chairman of the Adani Group, in a media statement.

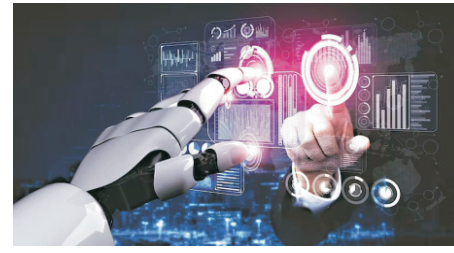
Indian ITeS Industry and GenAI Conundrum as adoption remains under 40%

New Delhi. India's IT enabled services industry is at a defining crossroads. While it is a fact that generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) could be India's next trillion dollar opportunity, for this to happen Indian developers have to adopt it. According to a study, despite over 80 per cent of developers recognizing GenAI's benefits, adoption lingers below 40 per cent. According to the latest Boston Consulting Group (BCG) report 'The GenAI Adoption Conundrum', over 80 per cent of developers acknowledge its advantages, citing increased productivity and efficiency. But even with all-pervasive benefits, proficient adoption of these tools is still at paltry figures.

"This is the GenAI adoption conundrum—where the benefits are visible, but proficient adoption still remains stuck below 40 per cent" said Sambhav Jain, MDP at BCG. "It's like being handed a Formula 1 race car—but choosing to walk instead. Contrary to further belief that GenZ is the GenAI generation, we

observed that proficient adoption among GenZ dipped even further to 31 per cent", Jain added. What ails this adoption is integration issues and inadequate enablement. Jain says that while every company says they are training their employees, this training is not focused on GenAI. "Training today is broad but lacks depth—Almost half developers reported being unaware of how to fully utilize the tool's capabilities in their workflow. Clients are skeptical too, and require clear value proposition & security measures," said Rajiv Gupta, Managing Director & Senior Partner, BCG in a conversation with At a time when AI and GenAI has been the focus area for clients, the Indian developers inability to be prepared can cost the industry a big opportunity.

"This conundrum represents a missed opportunity for Indian IT services. It's not just about access - Scaling is about behavior change, process transformation, and leadership. Many companies have begun their AI journey—running POCs,



experimenting, and seeing early success. Organizations that are getting this right are leveraging a structured adoption playbook," he added.

To break free from this conundrum, India's IT firms must move beyond experimentation and into full-scale adoption. BCG's report outlines a five-part playbook for success; it asks organisations to train for Impact, not Just Awareness - GenAI adoption jumps from 16 per cent to 48 per cent when developers receive five or more targeted training sessions. Two, 92 per cent of enterprise clients are willing to pay a premium for

AI-driven services, but they need proof of tangible ROI. Three, firms must track productivity gains scientifically—measuring AI's impact across efficiency, quality, and output.

Change management is a huge part of this adoption. Addressing psychological resistance among developers is also important. Finally, setting up Centers of Excellence (CoEs) is impactful. Almost 80 per cent of firms with GenAI Centers of Excellence have seen market improvement in trainings, better resource access & regular scientific tracking.

"GenAI's momentum is at the bottom of the hockey stick effect—what we do next will define our trajectory. We are at a critical inflection point where Indian ITeS must lead with conviction, scale GenAI with urgency, and earn the right to shape the future of AI-powered services. The choice is clear: we either embrace this transformation and cement our global leadership, or hesitate, lose ground, and fade into irrelevance," said Gupta.

Earning up to Rs 12.75 lakh Why you should opt for new income tax regime

NEW DELHI. Perhaps, the biggest Budget 2025 announcement by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was that individuals with salaries up to Rs 12 lakh will pay zero taxes under the new tax regime. This regime, though it has few exemptions and deductions, offers reduced tax rates. However, with Rs 75,000 as the standard deduction under the new regime, individuals earning up to Rs 12.75 lakh annually need not pay any taxes. Earlier, taxpayers earning up to Rs 7 lakh paid nil taxes under the new regime. Now that limit has been raised to Rs 12 lakh. This means anyone with an income of up to Rs 12.75 lakh (taking standard deduction into consideration) will now pay zero taxes. The Finance Minister in her Budget 2025 speech said, "I am now happy to announce that there will be no income tax payable upto income of 12



lakh (i.e. average income of 1 lakh per month other than special rate income such as capital gains) under the new regime. This limit will be 12.75 lakh for salaried taxpayers, due to standard deduction of 75,000."

Vaibhav Jajoo, Advocate (CA), Dhruva Advisors LLP said, "From a direct tax perspective, the relief and changes in tax slab rates are welcome measures.

Notably, income up to Rs. 12.75 lakhs (including a standard deduction of Rs. 75,000) has been made tax-exempt under the new tax regime. This is a significant and welcome move to provide relief to the middle class and stimulate spending in the economy."

In other words, those taxpayers with the above-mentioned income threshold of Rs 12.75 lakh annually, and who do not have significant savings or investments, such as those eligible for deductions under Section 80C (HRA, PPF, LIC, ELSS, etc.), should opt for the new tax regime owing to zero tax liability. This, in turn, would raise their consumption levels and give a boost to their savings and investment.

Quality Power IPO listing: Will it make a strong market debut Check latest GMP

New Delhi. Quality Power Limited shares are set to debut on Dalal Street on Monday, February 24 after it witnessed a muted response from investors but was fully subscribed by the end of the bidding process. Quality Power IPO opened for subscription on February 14, 2025, aiming to raise Rs 858.70 crore. The public issue consisted of a fresh issue of 53 lakh shares worth Rs 225 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of 1.49 crore shares worth Rs 633.70 crore. However, the energy transition equipment maker is likely to list at a discount, as indicated by the latest grey market premium (GMP), which has been declining consistently.

GREY MARKET PREMIUM SIGNALS WEAK LISTING

A day before the listing, Quality Power's GMP saw a sharp drop due to

weak investor demand and overall market sentiment. The stock was last trading at a discount of Rs 10 per share in the grey market, suggesting a subdued debut for investors. The GMP remained flat throughout the IPO bidding process, reflecting low enthusiasm for the stock.

The price band was set at Rs 401-425 per share, with a minimum lot size of 26 shares. Through this public issue, Quality Power raised Rs 858.70 crore, which included a fresh issue of Rs 225 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of 1.49, 10,500 equity shares.

IPO SUBSCRIPTION

Investor response to the IPO was limited, with the overall subscription reaching only 1.29 times.

The retail category saw a subscription of 1.82 times, while Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs)

subscribed 1.03 times. Non-Institutional Investors (NIIs) showed a subscription of 1.45 times.

These figures indicate moderate demand, particularly from institutional investors, which could impact the stock's performance on listing day. Market analysts have said that Quality Power may witness a weak opening but has potential for long-term growth. "The company is well-positioned to achieve sustained growth within the energy sector. Investors who have received allotments should consider holding their shares for long-term gains," said Palak Devadiga, Research Analyst at StoxBox. Despite the weak listing outlook, brokerage firms maintained a mostly positive stance on the IPO, citing the company's role in the energy transition sector.



the Fed is unlikely to materialise. The Fed might even turn hawkish, impacting US stock markets. If this happens and the US bond yields start declining, FIIs may cease to be sellers in India and may even resume buying. The near-term scenario is highly uncertain. The positive factor in our market is that the valuations of largecaps have turned fair and in certain segments like financials attractive, giving opportunities for long-term investors to buy. Even though the broader market valuations continue to be high, there are opportunities in select stocks in this segment.

FII selling dampens investor sentiment on Dalal Street: When will it stop

NEW DELHI. Benchmark stock market indices have been falling since peaking in late September, leading to weak investor sentiment on Dalal Street. The same was witnessed in the last session where the Sensex and Nifty ended the trading session on a weak note, dragged down by shares of banking, financial, and automobile companies. The S&P BSE Sensex ended 424.90 points to 75,311.06 at the closing bell, while the NSE Nifty50 fell 117.25 points to settle at 22,795.90. "Nifty touched its lowest level since June 2024, closing the second consecutive week in negative territory. The index ended slightly below 22,800, signalling weakness in the market. Prices continue to trade below the key 21-day and 55-day EMAs, indicating a bearish trend. Strong selling pressure is expected to persist until Nifty decisively closes above the 23,350 mark," said Puneet Singhania, Director at Master Trust Group.

FII SELLING PRESSURE WEIGHS ON MARKETS

Concerns over foreign investor selling

have added to market worries, with global factors like the US tariff threat.

Dr V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said, "FII selling continues unabated in the stock market. After selling stocks worth Rs 81,903 crore through exchanges in January, FIIs followed up by selling stocks worth Rs 30,588 crore in February through the 21st. This takes total selling in 2025 so far to Rs 1,12,492 crore (NSDL). This massive selling has resulted in Nifty yielding negative returns of 4% YTD." He pointed out that foreign investors are moving funds to other markets. "After Trump's victory in the US presidential elections, the US market has been attracting huge capital inflows from the rest of the world. But recently, China has emerged as a major destination for portfolio flows. The Chinese president's new initiatives with leading businessmen have sparked hopes of a growth recovery in China. The Chinese stock market responded positively, with the Hang Seng index (where FIIs buy Chinese stocks through



the Hong Kong stock market) shooting up by 18.7% in a month, in sharp contrast to the 1.55% decline in Nifty," said Vijayakumar.

SHIFT IN FOREIGN INVESTOR PREFERENCES

Vaibhav Porwal, Co-Founder, Dezerv, highlighted a shift in global investor preferences. "Since October 2024, India's market cap has fallen by about USD 1 trillion, while China's has risen by USD 2 trillion. This suggests a tactical shift in FII flows. Data from NSDL shows that Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) pulled out approximately Rs 25,000 crore from Indian equities in January 2024 alone, in

sharp contrast to the strong inflows of over Rs 1.7 lakh crore in 2023," said Porwal. According to him, multiple factors have contributed to this shift: India's growth and valuation concerns; While India's long-term growth story remains strong, near-term valuation worries and sluggish corporate earnings have led to profit booking. Indian stocks trade at a premium compared to other emerging markets, prompting global investors to reassess their positions. Strong dollar impact: A strong US dollar often attracts capital to American markets, which are considered safer and more stable. This has been a factor in FII outflows from emerging markets like India.

China's economic rebound: After a long period of correction, Chinese equities have become more attractive. In September 2024, China announced an economic stimulus package that included policy support, regulatory easing, and measures to boost FI sentiment. This has renewed investor confidence in China's recovery story.

Chaos as cops block Congress workers' march to Rajasthan Assembly over 'dadi' dig

During a discussion in the Rajasthan Assembly on February 21, state Minister Avinash Gehlot made the controversial "in your Dadi's name" remarks, seen as an allusion to former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

New Delhi. Congress workers on Monday staged a massive protest outside the Rajasthan Assembly in Jaipur amid an ongoing uproar over a Rajasthan minister's controversial remarks against former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The protest, however, turned violent as the demonstrators clashed with police as they were stopped from marching towards the Assembly where the Budget Session is currently underway. Videos of the protest showed participants trying to climb police barricades, with some resorting to physical altercation. According to news agency PTI, MPs Harish Meena and Murari Meena, former minister BD Kalla and several other senior Congress leaders participated in the protest. During a discussion in the Rajasthan Assembly on the Centre's 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme on February 21, the state's Social Welfare Minister, Avinash Gehlot critiqued

the Congress and said, "In the 2023-24 budget also, like always, you named the scheme after your 'dadi' (grandmother) Indira Gandhi." The remark triggered an immediate uproar in the House, which led to three adjournments and the suspension of six Congress MLAs, including state party chief Govind Singh Dotasara, for the rest of the Budget session. Since then, Congress legislators have staged a sit-in at the premises demanding an apology from Avinash Gehlot. Assembly proceedings witnessed three adjournments on Monday as Congress MLAs continued sloganeering against the controversial remarks and the suspension of legislators. While the Congress has continued lashing out at Avinash Gehlot, the minister, however, claimed that the remark was not made out of disrespect. "Elderly in the family are addressed as Dadi. It was not done out of disrespect," he said in defence.



RSS-backed Muslim wing holds meeting on Waqf bill and UCC

NEW DELHI. The All India Executive Meeting of the Muslim Rashtriya Manch (MRM), held on Sunday, brought together over 100 office-bearers from across the country. The meeting, chaired by MRM's mentor Indresh Kumar, focused on promoting unity, brotherhood and greater participation of the community in nation-building. The RSS-affiliated group also passed significant resolutions on Waqf reforms, the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), equal rights, de-addiction and an Imdad Fund for the underprivileged.

Key figures at the meeting included former ministers Dr. Shahid Akhtar, Abu Bakar Naqvi, S.K. Muddin, Mazahir Khan, Bilal Ur Rahman, Dr. Shalini Ali, Dr. Majid Talikoti, Hasan Noori and others. Speaking after the meeting, Shahid Sayeed, national convener and media in-charge, said, "The meeting had serious deliberations on the Waqf Amendment Bill 2024, communal harmony, equal civil rights for Muslims and the need for transparency in the use of Waqf properties. Discussions also touched on the resolution of disputed religious sites like Kashi and Mathura and the launch of a de-addiction campaign for Muslim youth." Indresh Kumar said, "A Uniform Civil Code is necessary to ensure equality and justice for all communities. Different laws for different groups create discrimination and a single code will guarantee equal rights for everyone, including Muslim women." He added, "India's soul lies in 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (The world is one family), where every religion enjoys equal rights."

'I Have Options If You Don't Need Me': Shashi Tharoor's Message To Congress

NEW DELHI. If the Congress does not want Shashi Tharoor's services, he has other things to do - this is the message the diplomat-turned-MP has sent to the party high command amid an ongoing row over his praises for the rival Left government in Kerala. He also flagged the absence of a Congress leader in Kerala on The Indian Express' Malayalam-language podcast 'Varthamanam', which is set for Wednesday's launch. A teaser of the podcast is already out.

Mr Tharoor, who has been elected four times from his home state, has upset his party by praising the CPM's policies in Kerala and the state's growth. His praises for Prime Minister Narendra Modi over meeting with US President Donald Trump had also drawn criticism. Defending his remarks, he said on the podcast that the people have supported his right to express himself over the state's development.

"If the party wants me then I will be there for the party. If not, I have my own things to do. You should not think that I don't have any option to spend time. I have options. I have my books, speeches, invitations from across the world for talks," he said.

The 2024 national elections saw a Congress resurgence, but the same did not reflect in the state elections that followed. Mr Tharoor said the Congress needed to expand their appeal in Kerala, or else they would sit in the opposition for the third straight time.

The Congress cannot win elections with the support of only its committed support base, he asserted. "At the national level, the Congress vote was around 19%. Would we be fine with our own vote base? Only if we get 26-27% additional, we can come to power. We need those who have not backed us in the last two elections," he added.

He said he even got the votes of those opposing the Congress due to the way he expressed himself. "I came back to this country to serve it. I was doing well in the US and earning a lot of money," he said.

The Tharoor Row

Mr Tharoor, a prominent Congress face in Kerala, sparked a buzz of rift after he praised the LDF government's handling of the Kerala economy in a newspaper article. The Left welcomed his remarks, but it drew fire from his own camp.

Panel on cost soon to firm up sub project

NEW DELHI. Formation of a cost negotiation committee is under way to speed up the Indian Navy's Project 75 (India) project under which submarines will be built in alignment with the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

The CNC will be formed up soon will include officials from the Ministry of Defence (MoD), Navy and Defence Finance in addition to representatives of Mazagon Dockyard Limited (MDL) that will lead the project under strategic partnership (SP) with Germany's TKMS (ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems), said sources. "Once the project is firm up, MDL and Germany must adhere to the objectives of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. TKMS will need to meet 100% of the commercial and technical requirements, including transfer of technology and Indian content," an



MoD source said. "This area will be closely scrutinised to ensure that actual design knowledge is transferred to India after the delivery of the first submarine, allowing India to freely use this technology as needed," the source added. "A contract will be signed between the MoD and MDL. Further, there will be a contract between MDL and TKMS. Work share and responsibilities will be finalised under the contracts," another

source said. "Firstly the design will be confirmed and then it will be work converted into a functional system. The transfer of technology from the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) should be such that the next class of submarines should be totally Indian, from scratch to operational system," the source said.

"Historically Germans are not known for sharing such extensive knowledge in defence programmes, so the successful implementation of the SP model will be seen as significant," the source added. Another concern voiced by the sources emanates from the past experience of the cost and time overrun in construction of the Scorpene Class submarines. In the case of Scorpene (P75), the Naval Group of France was involved with the MDL.

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta Takes Oath As Member of Legislative Assembly

New Delhi. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta along with her council of ministers took oath as members of the Legislative Assembly on Monday. The first session of the House commenced this morning and will see all newly-elected legislators taking oath. Alongside Delhi Chief Minister, the BJP ministers Parvesh Verma, Ashish Sood, Kapil Mishra, Ravinder Singh Indraj, Pankaj Kumar Singh and Manjinder Singh Sirsa also took the oath. AAP's 22 MLAs, including Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, Atishi, also took oath during the first session of the House. Rekha Gupta had taken the oath as Delhi's Chief Minister on Thursday at a grand ceremony at Ramlila Maidan. The swearing-in event, marking BJP's comeback after

27 years, was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, and several Chief Ministers from BJP-ruled states. The event was not only a political

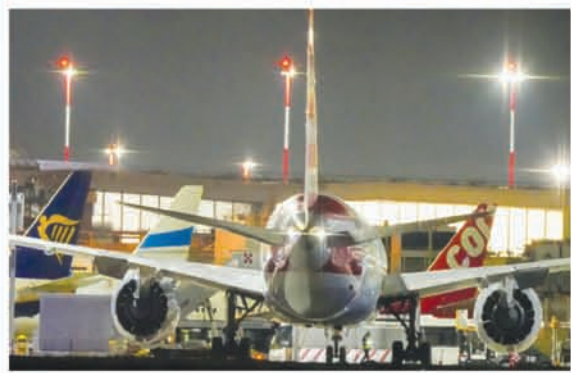
milestone but also a show of strength for the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). With her appointment, Rekha Gupta has become the fourth woman Chief Minister of Delhi, following in the footsteps of Sheila Dikshit, Sushma Swaraj, and Atishi. She is also the fourth



BJP leader to hold the top post in the capital, succeeding Madan Lal Khurana, Sahib Singh Verma, and Sushma Swaraj. The first session of the Delhi Assembly is set to last for three days. The proceedings began with BJP MLA Arvinder Singh Lovely taking oath as the pro-tem Speaker, a temporary position responsible for conducting House proceedings until a full-time Speaker is elected. Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Vinai Kumar Saxena administered the oath to Lovely at Raj Niwas. The election for the Assembly Speaker is scheduled to take place at 2:00 p.m. According to the Assembly bulletin, L-G Saxena will address the House on February 25, after which the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) reports will be tabled.

Bomb threat forces NY-Delhi flight to divert, land in Rome

NEW DELHI. An American Airlines flight from New York's John F Kennedy International Airport to Delhi was forced to make an emergency landing in Rome on Sunday night following a mid-air bomb threat. The Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, with over 280 passengers aboard, diverted its course over the Caspian Sea before heading westward toward Italy. According to flight tracking data, Flight AA292 took off from New York at approximately 8:30 pm on Saturday for its scheduled 14-hour journey to the Indian capital. However, around



10 hours into the flight, the aircraft executed an abrupt turn near the Black Sea, reversing its path before heading toward Rome's Fiumicino Airport.

Upon nearing Italian airspace, the plane was reportedly escorted by Italian fighter jets as a precautionary measure. It landed safely in Rome at around 5:30 p.m. local time.

While authorities have not disclosed the precise nature of the security alert, sources suggest that a bomb threat was received mid-flight, necessitating an immediate assessment by airline and security officials.

The decision to divert to Rome instead of a closer landing site was attributed to American Airlines' established operational base in the Italian capital.

MK Stalin demands complete withdrawal of Advocates Amendment Bill 2025

NEW DELHI. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin demanded the complete withdrawal of the Advocates Amendment Bill 2025, calling it a direct assault on the autonomy of the legal profession. In a post on X, he accused the BJP government of systematically undermining the independence of the judiciary since 2014. He alleged that the central government first attempted to hijack judicial appointments through the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC), then ignored the collegium's recommendations for judicial appointments and



transfers, and is now trying to weaken judicial independence by seeking control over Bar Councils. "By eroding the autonomy of the legal profession, the BJP government aims to curb judicial independence," Stalin stated. Criticising what he termed the BJP's aversion to the Tamil language, the Chief Minister pointed out that the Bill seeks to rename the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu & Puducherry as the Bar Council of Madras. "Tamil Nadu is not just a name, it is our identity," he asserted.

Stalin also noted that while strong opposition forced the Union government to withdraw the draft Bill, the indication that it would be reconsidered and processed afresh was unacceptable. He reiterated his party Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's (DMK) demand for a complete withdrawal of the Bill and urged the Union government to respect the autonomy of the legal profession.

NGT asks authorities to complete drain desilting by May 31 before monsoon

The directive comes amid concerns that incomplete desilting could lead to severe waterlogging and flooding.

NEW DELHI. Even months before the arrival of the monsoon in the capital, the issue of desilting drains has once again come to the forefront. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Irrigation and Flood Control Department (I&FCD) to ensure that desilting work on 24 city drains is completed by May 31. The tribunal has also ordered the department's additional chief secretary to submit an undertaking by February 25, confirming that the deadline will be met.

The directive comes amid concerns that incomplete desilting could lead to severe waterlogging and flooding. In an order dated February 21, the tribunal, led by Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava, judicial member Justice Sudhir Agarwal, and expert member A. Senthil Vel, referred to a status report submitted by the I&FCD on February 20. The report outlined progress on the desilting of

the 24 drains that flow into the Yamuna and provided a timeline for their completion. According to the report, some drains are nearing completion. As of February 14, work

Drain (49.21%), Kushak Drain (48.93%), Tughlakabad Drain (37.34%), and Sunehri Pul Drain (36.87%).



However, several drains remain largely untouched, raising concerns about whether the deadline will be met. The lowest desilting progress was reported in Sonia Vihar Drain (0.08%), Shastri Park Drain (0.34%), Sen Nursing Home Drain (0.54%), Kailash Nagar Drain (0.55%), and Barapulla Drain (1%). "It has been pointed out that if the desilting work is not completed by the I&FCD within the timeline then this year monsoon will start and the residents of the colony from where these drains are flowing may face the same flooding or overflowing problem of these drains which they had faced in the previous monsoon," the bench noted. To ensure accountability, the NGT has mandated that the additional chief secretary of I&FCD appear virtually at the next hearing slated on February 27.

on the Moat Drain of Vijay Ghat was 84.92% complete, while the Civil-Military Drain stood at 78.51%. Other drains with notable progress included the Maharani Bagh Drain (50.24%), Abul Fazal

Drain (49.21%), Kushak Drain (48.93%), Tughlakabad Drain (37.34%), and Sunehri Pul Drain (36.87%).

NEWS BOX

Surprise rebel alliance could boost Sudan's beleaguered RSF

PORT SUDAN. Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces have signed a charter paving the way for a parallel government with its allies...

Who is Friedrich Merz, Conservative leader set to become new German Chancellor

World Germany's conservative leader, Friedrich Merz, is poised to lead the nation after his party, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), won the largest vote share...

Trump fires 1,600 USAID employees, others sent on indefinite paid leave

WASHINGTON. Most employees at USAID will be placed on leave or fired by midnight on Sunday, the aid agency said, as President Donald Trump's administration plows ahead in slashing government spending...

Zelenskyy says debt label on US aid to Ukraine would open 'Pandora's box'

Kyiv,UPDATED. A contentious Trump administration proposal to give the US \$500 billion worth of profits from Ukraine's rare earth minerals as compensation for its wartime assistance to Kyiv has been taken off the table...

No further details were given on the state of negotiations. Ukraine has insisted on security guarantees that it needs to deter any potential Russian aggression in the future...



the fighting under the security umbrella of the NATO military alliance. 'If to achieve peace, you really need me to give up my post, I'm ready,' he said.

Jane Fonda's speech at SAG awards: 'Woke just means you give a damn about other people'

UPDATED The 31st Screen Actors Guild Awards showered yet more awards on 'Shogun,' handed 'A Real Pain' co-star Kieran Culkin another supporting actor win...



documentary moment," said Fonda. "This is it. And it's not a rehearsal." Fonda added that "woke just means you give a damn about other people."

Martin Short, though he upset Jeremy Allen White to win best male actor in a comedy series for 'Only Murders in the Building...' The Hulu series also won for best comedy ensemble...

Ukraine-Russia war 3 years on: Trump's dramatic policy shift rattles world

World Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a "special military operation" to "demilitarise and denazify" Ukraine on February 24, 2022. This was the beginning of the ongoing war between the two neighbouring nations...



Far-right AfD cheers historic gains in German polls: Next time we'll come first

Berlin. For the first time since the Second World War, a far-right party has come second in a German national election, a result that will keep it outside government but make it a fearsome opponent of the ruling parties...



chose to govern with left-wing parties rather than them. If that happened, she said, "next time we'll come first."

ally in the White House, where Donald Trump's adviser Elon Musk, the world's richest person, regularly posts his support. "It's the most amazing feeling. I've been here since its founding and to see it on 20% is amazing."

Pope Francis in critical condition after 'mild kidney failure', remains alert

Pope Francis receiving high oxygen flows, but no recent respiratory crises. Doctors say some blood tests showed 'initial, mild, kidney failure'.

kidney failure", but doctors said it was under control. "The complexity of the clinical picture, and the necessary wait for drug therapies to provide some feedback, dictate that the prognosis remains guarded."



Rome. Pope Francis remained in critical condition on Sunday and blood tests showed early kidney failure, but he remained alert, responsive and attended Mass, the Vatican said...

In New York, Cardinal Timothy Dolan admitted what church leaders in Rome weren't saying publicly: that the Catholic faithful were united "at the bedside of a dying father."

Francis was supposed to celebrate Mass on Sunday morning in St. Peter's Basilica and ordain deacons as part of the Vatican's year-long Holy Year commemoration.

necessary treatment; and the rest is also part of the therapy!" The message asked for prayers for him — as he always asks — and noted the upcoming anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine...

PRAYERS FOR POPE AT VATICAN

NEWS BOX

Champions Trophy: India vs Pakistan clash breaks viewership record on JioHotstar

New Delhi. The wish of over a billion cricket fans in India was fulfilled as they got to see their favourite sight of star India batter Virat Kohli raising his bat to celebrate his century against Pakistan on Sunday, February 23 in Dubai. Staying true to his tag of being a chase master, Kohli played a magnificent innings of 100* (111) studded with seven fours to help India climb a mountain of 242 runs successfully and thrash the arch-rivals by six wickets. Right from the onset of his innings, Kohli looked at his vintage best, playing every shot with authority as he manoeuvred through the field with the utmost ease. It was in complete contrast to his knocks in recent times, where he had looked like a pale shadow of himself desperate to get some runs. Seeing Kohli return to his best, fans were left wondering what exactly he did to find his mojo back



after enduring poor form across formats since 2024. The hunger for a big knock was always there in the eyes of the batting stalwart as he arrived 90 minutes early to prepare himself for the all-important clash. Having been dismissed against spin time and again in recent times, Kohli was determined to work on his weakness by facing local net bowlers in a rigorous practice session to overcome his shortcomings. When the first over of the match was bowled by Mohammed Shami, the viewership jumped to 6.8 crore at the end of it and kept increasing through the match. The viewership reached 32.1 crore in the last over of Pakistan's innings and reached 32.2 crore during the innings break. When India began their run chase, the viewership increased to 33.8 crore and remained stable at 36.2 crore for a substantial period before surging to record levels when India inched towards a victory. **Champions Trophy: Full Coverage | Points Table** The previous record for the highest peak concurrency was at 3.5 crore registered in 2023 when India played Pakistan in the ICC Cricket World Cup on

They told her women shouldn't box, Now she's Ghana's first female world champion

ACCRA. When Abigail Kwartekaa Quartey decided as a teenager to become a professional boxer – an unusual choice for a young woman in a working-class neighbourhood of Ghana's capital of Accra – her family begged her to stop training.

Boxing is the pride of Jamestown, which is based around the fishing industry and also known for being home to many boxing stars. But like most sports in Ghana, boxing has often been seen as for men only, and women are discouraged from taking part.

And last year, at age 27, she became Ghana's first female world boxing champion and the first woman to travel the world as a member of the West African nation's national team.

"My aunts and siblings didn't like it when I started boxing. They would come here to beg my coach not to let me become a boxer," she said at the Jamestown neighborhood's Black Panthers Gym where Quartey has been training since her teenage years.

But when last November Quartey defeated British boxer Sangeeta Birdi in Jamestown's



main boxing area, winning the WIBF World Super Bantamweight title, crowds of friends and supporters from the neighborhood celebrated wildly, seemingly forgetting about the prejudice against female boxers.

Triumph after challenges

Ghanaian media pronounced her win "history," but Quartey is quick to point out that she is by no means the first female boxer in Ghana. "There were women in boxing before I ventured into boxing," she said. But they weren't allowed to travel outside the country, she added. Quartey's long road to this spectacular victory highlights the many challenges that female athletes in African countries face in their careers. Quartey grew up in Jamestown and, as a teenager, sold rice with her aunt to help the family make ends meet. The only people who supported her boxing dream were her brother, a fellow boxer, and her coach. In 2017, she stopped boxing and started selling lottery tickets to earn money.

How Virat Kohli conquered his spin demons to demolish Pakistan in Dubai

Star India batter Virat Kohli was seen at his vintage best, playing a match-winning innings of 100* (111) against Pakistan in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025. The batting stalwart had to conquer his spin demons to rise above the odds and script another masterful chase for the Men in Blue.

New Delhi. The wish of over a billion cricket fans in India was fulfilled as they got to see their favourite sight of star India batter Virat Kohli raising his bat to celebrate his century against Pakistan on Sunday, February 23 in Dubai. Staying true to his tag of being a chase master, Kohli played a magnificent innings of 100* (111) studded with seven fours to help India climb a mountain of 242 runs successfully and thrash the arch-rivals by six wickets. Right from the onset of his innings, Kohli looked at his vintage best, playing every shot with authority as he

manoeuvred through the field with the utmost ease. It was in complete contrast to his knocks in recent times, where he had looked like a pale shadow of himself desperate to get some runs. Seeing Kohli return to his best, fans were left wondering what exactly he did to find his mojo back after enduring poor form across formats since 2024. The hunger for a big knock was always there in the eyes of the batting stalwart as he arrived 90 minutes early to prepare himself for the all-important clash. Having been dismissed against spin time and again in recent times, Kohli was determined to work on his weakness by facing local net bowlers in a rigorous practice session to overcome his shortcomings.

Acceptance of weakness

The former India captain was also seen reintroducing the sweep shot into his repertoire as he played it time and again in the practice nets. Apart from that, Kohli also worked on his backfoot game by going deep inside his crease to play cut shots and push the ball into gaps for singles. Former India cricketer turned commentator Aakash Chopra shared the details of Kohli's practice session a day ahead of the game and threw light on the thought process of the batting star. "It was interesting actually a couple of shots, wrist spin has been a problem, let's be

honest. Whether it's Rashid or Rishad, he knows that. There is a problem that's just there and it's ailing him. There's an Abrar, whom he will have to handle against Pakistan. So playing the slog sweep and the sweep shot and going deep inside the crease and then playing the cut shot. And I think,



what also plays a role here is that now he knows how this surface is going to react. So you know, these are the areas, I need to target. This is the bowler, I need to play. And these are my strengths as well that if I were to score runs, I will go sweep and slog sweep and also deep inside the crease and cut shot," said Chopra on Star Sports. Having refined his skills, the King was all ready to pounce on his favourite opponent as he walked to the crease amid loud cheers from fans demanding some sumptuous shots from his blade. Kohli got off to a good start in his

innings as, after scoring a few singles, his trademark cover drive came to the fore, and he moved to 22 (20).

Exorcising the spin demons

Kohli's trial by spin finally began as Abrar Ahmed came on to bowl in the 14th over and he comfortably started the battle with a single. The contest between the two was expected to be a match-defining moment as Kohli had been dismissed by wrist spinners five out of his last six innings. He played three dot balls in the over but never for a second looked perturbed, showing good judgement at the crease, playing both off the front foot and back foot. As his innings went on, Kohli kept on nudging the ball around for singles and doubles and gradually built on his innings. In between, he collected a couple of boundaries against Haris Rauf and Naseem Shah and completed his half-century off 62 balls. The Kohli of the old had returned, as he whittled away the deficit run by run and brought the game into India's grasp in no time. His method was simple, "go after the seam bowlers and not take too many risks against the spinners but keep rotating the strike". Kohli stood true to his mantra as he took no risks whatsoever against the spinners and collected occasional boundaries against the fast bowler to keep the required run rate under control.

IND vs PAK: Hardik Pandya delivers a Bumrah-esque performance to win over fans

Hardik Pandya was an unsung hero for India during their win against Pakistan as he played the role of Jasprit Bumrah during the match. Hardik picked up the wickets of Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan.

"New Delhi. They (fans) said, life for me, had come a full circle. They said, from here on, there was no looking back. I had won them (fans) back."

These were the words of Hardik Pandya before the India vs Pakistan game as the all-rounder once again produced the goods with the ball for his side in a high-pressure contest. The last year or so hasn't been kind for the all-rounder as he was villainised during the IPL for various reasons. However, Hardik stepped up to the plate when India needed him to bowl the last over in the T20 World Cup final.

He got the wicket of David Miller and the rest was history. That was the start of the fan reaction towards Hardik changing and despite losing the vice-captaincy, the all-rounder quietly went about with his work and kept working on his game. | IND vs

PAK, Highlights | The India vs Pakistan game was a crucial one for both sides as a win was needed by both teams in a bid to boost their hopes of making it to the semi-finals. India didn't have the services of Jasprit Bumrah, who was the hero in the last 2 matches against Pakistan in ICC



events. India's start was far from ideal in the match as Pakistan got off to a great start thanks to Babar Azam. To add to the misery at that time, India would lose Mohammed Shami to an injury as well. Hardik steps in to deliver the goods

Hardik came in as the first change bowler for India and Babar would welcome him with a boundary. The all-rounder would be hit for another one soon after as the Pakistan fans were hoping for a Babar special in Dubai.

Nobody can handle pressure and provide stability like Kohli: BCCI, IPL top brass

DUBAI. Virat Kohli provides unmatched stability to the Indian team, according to former Sports Minister Anurag Thakur and BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla, who felt the superstar batter displayed exceptional composure under pressure during his century against Pakistan.

Kohli's majestic unbeaten century was the backbone of India's six-wicket victory over Pakistan in the Champions Trophy.

"Virat Kohli has shown how to handle the pressure and how to play for the country. Through his outstanding innings, Virat has won many hearts and the match for the country," former BCCI President Thakur told PTL. "If you look at Virat's innings, he never went outright for the century. For him, the priority was India's win. He was rotating the strike, not going for his own runs only."

"He wanted to play till the last and win the match for India. That is a big thing about



nobody can do it," Shukla said.

"Shreyas & Gill also played very well. The Indian team is back to full form. All the players were fully fit and they were ready to take on Pakistan. And they did it in style. The team looks well oiled for the finals," he added. Kohli's century, his 51st in ODIs, was laced with seven boundaries. "The entire country was waiting for Virat to score a century. The way he played today, it was a fantastic innings to watch," IPL Chairman Arun Dhimal said. "I am pretty sure that IPL has played a major role in India's good show at the ICC tournaments. Look at the bench strength. Not just for Indian cricket, IPL has changed the cricket world over."

"That's the change of attitude that has happened over the years. That has made cricket very interesting and that is why you have new audience hooking on to cricket. It augurs well for the game," he added.

Rohit Sharma, Mohammed Shami injuries: Shreyas Iyer provides crucial updates

India vs Pakistan: India captain Rohit Sharma and fast bowler Mohammed Shami were away from the field for a fair amount of time due to injury concerns on Sunday. Shreyas Iyer provides a crucial update on the players after their second group stage game in Dubai.

New Delhi India batter Shreyas Iyer provided fitness updates for captain Rohit Sharma and fast bowler Mohammed Shami after the India vs Pakistan match in the Champions Trophy. While Shami left the field to receive some treatment on his shin inside the first 10 overs of the match, Rohit was off for an extended period of time, supposedly due to a hamstring injury.

Rohit struggled to chase balls at the very end of India's bowling innings. Former pacer Dale Steyn spotted the issue while commenting on the game and said that Rohit was struggling with his left hamstring. On the other hand, Shami's issues seemed to be solved once he returned to the field to bowl his second spell in the match. Shami, however, did not bowl his full quota of 10 overs but looked in much better shape than in his first spell.

India vs Pakistan, Champions Trophy: Match Report The injury concerns with two of India's star players come at a crucial time in the tournament. India has just one more group stage game left in the Champions Trophy. They are all but qualified for the semi-final, which is set to be played on March 4, at the Dubai International Stadium.

Middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer was asked



about the fitness updates of both players in the post-match press conference. Iyer revealed that there were no concerns with either of the players.

"Not really. I mean, I had a brief chat with them, both of them were quite comfortable with the way things progressed, and yeah,

he looking to make amends after losing to India by six wickets on Thursday in Dubai. The Tigers have happy memories of playing in Rawalpindi after they beat Pakistan 2-0 last year in a Test series.

Is Mahmudullah fit?

Before facing the Kiwis, Bangladesh are grappling with an injury concern over Mahmudullah Riyad, a key player in ICC events. Mahmudullah missed the match against India, where the Tigers fielded both Towhid Hridoy and Jaker Ali Anik. However, Bangladesh are still awaiting his full recovery before deciding on his availability for the New Zealand clash. "Well, we're going to find out that today. He has to do a fitness test today and then we'll know after practice today whether he's fit enough for selection," head coach Phil Simmons said in the pre-match press conference. If Mahmudullah plays, Bangladesh will face another selection dilemma. With Jaker scoring a half-century and Hridoy registering his maiden ODI century.



from my knowledge, I don't think there is any issue," Shreyas Iyer said after the match.

While Rohit has not had any injury concerns in the recent past, he did work on his fitness after being criticised during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2024/25. On the other hand, Mohammed Shami returned to play for India after a long injury layover of 14 months. Shami had an ankle surgery after the ODI World Cup 2023 and took more than a year to return to international cricket. The fast bowler had recently opened up on his fitness journey, where he said that he had to train at the National Cricket Academy for 8 hours every day to shed 9 kilograms.

Jacqueline Fernandez

And Orry Giggle, Vibe Together At Honey Singh's Mumbai Concert



Honey Singh began his Millionaire India Tour in Mumbai on February 23. Jacqueline Fernandez and Orry vibed together at his concert.

Singer-rapper Yo Yo Honey Singh kickstarted his Millionaire India Tour on Saturday, February 22, by performing in Mumbai. Jacqueline Fernandez and Orry were some of the many starry guests at the concert. A video going viral shows Jacqueline and Orry vibing together in one of the VIP stands. Jacqueline wore a pink T-shirt which she ampmed with a dungaree. Orry sported a semi-formal look in shirt-with-sweater and trousers. The duo was seen giggling together and enjoying with the crowd in the stands. Check out the video here:

Several other videos from Honey Singh's concert have been going viral. One of which being his not-so-subtle dig at rappers Badshah and Raftaar. During a segment of his show, Singh joked that many claimed to be his brothers but also predicted that he won't make a comeback. He further mentioned that 'they' once used to write songs for them and are now of the belief that they can pen his fate. The Lungi Dance singer said, "Kayee log kehte hain ki wo mere bhai hain. Kayi log kehte hain ki mera comeback nahi ho raha. Aur phir kehte hain wo mere gaane likhte the. Aur phir kehte hain ki wo meri takdeer likh denge." e further added, "To uspe ek sher sunaao? Video banao, usko tag karna. Pichle saal meri taqdeer ne kaiyon ke guroor hain tode. Aur tujhe comeback karna padega l**** (Can I share a poetry on that? Record videos, tag him. Last year, my destiny has broken the pride of many. Now you will have to make a comeback)."As a part of his Millionaire India Tour, Honey Singh will cover 10 major cities in the country, starting February 22 to April 5. He will visit Lucknow next, followed by Delhi, Indore, Pune, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, and Jaipur. His concluding tour will take place in Kolkata.

Priyanka Chopra

Shares Glimpse From Daughter Malti Marie's Museum Visit In New York

Priyanka Chopra Jonas is known as a global star and often shares her professional and personal life photos with fans. Recently, the actress treated fans by sharing beautiful moments from a museum visit with her daughter, Malti Marie Chopra Jonas. It

reacting to it. Many dropped adorable comments.

The actress recently visited Mumbai for her brother Siddharth Chopra's wedding to Neelam Upadhyay. After the celebrations, she was spotted at Mumbai



has gone viral. Priyanka was in India to attend her brother's wedding and also shoot for SS Rajamouli's next. In a series of photos and videos posted on her Instagram stories, Priyanka captured Malti's fascination with the museum's displays. Malti is seen enjoying the different lights at the museum. Nick Jonas also shared a photo with guitar and Malti's plush toy doll was kept near him. In no time fans were seen

Airport last week in a pastel co-ord set as she departed for Hyderabad. She later confirmed her arrival by sharing pictures on Instagram, leaving fans curious about her professional plans. On Valentine's Day 2025, Priyanka dedicated a lovely post to her hubby, calling him her 'forever' Valentine. She also shared two pictures, giving fans a glimpse of how their relationship began, versus how it is going! On the work front, Priyanka is currently filming in Hyderabad for SSMB 29, directed by SS Rajamouli and starring Mahesh Babu. The film, described as a globe-trotting jungle adventure, is expected to wrap up shooting by 2026. Fans are eagerly awaiting official updates on her role in

the highly anticipated project. Before diving into work, Priyanka visited the Chilkur Balaji Temple in Hyderabad, offering prayers. Sharing a photo from the visit, she 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."



Himesh Reshammiya's Wife Sonia Says He Looks At Himself For Four Hours In The Bathroom: 'Who does that?'



Himesh Reshammiya recently launched his wife Sonia Kapoor's podcast, The Sonia Kapoor Show, where they had a lighthearted chat. While discussing his career and his new film, Badass Ravikumar, Sonia teased Himesh about his habit of admiring himself in the mirror for hours. Sonia joked, "What is your favourite thing about yourself? Apart from the fact that you like looking at yourself for four hours in the bathroom." Himesh, surprised, replied, "What are you saying? Tumhe apne show ki TRP leni hai toh tum mere naam pe le rahi ho (You want TRP for your show, so you are taking it in my name)." Sonia defended herself and said, "I am talking facts. You are like this. If you want to take a 9 am flight, you get up at 3 am to get ready. Who does that?"

Himesh said that he likes to take his time getting ready and doesn't want to feel rushed. Sonia replied, "Yeah, so that you can look at yourself in the mirror for two hours." Himesh then went on to ask Sonia, "What are you talking about?" Sonia said, "I am sorry, main pol khol rahi hoon tumhari (I am sorry, I am exposing you)."

Himesh Reshammiya married Sonia Kapoor in 2018. Their wedding came after Himesh's divorce from his first wife, Komal. Himesh, known for his hit songs like "Aashiq Banaya Aapne" and "Jhalak Dikhla Jaa," has had a successful music career, with many chart-topping hits.

On the work front, Himesh's recently released Badass Ravi Kumar minted Rs 8.3 crore in India, 10 days after its release on February 7, as per sacnilk.com. Directed by Keith Gomes, the film is a spin-off to the 2014 drama film The Xpose and also features celebs such as Prabhudeva, Kirti Kulhari, Sunny Leone, Sanjay Mishra, Johnny Lever, Mohan Joshi, Raza Murad and others. The film faced a box office clash with Junaid Khan and Khushi Kapoor's romantic drama Loveyapa.

Kiara Advani-Sidharth Malhotra Cheerfully Interact With Fans During Dubai Vacay



A few days ago, Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani were spotted at the Mumbai airport as they jetted off to Dubai for a vacay. Fans have been eagerly waiting for them to post glimpses from the holiday. During their time in the city, Sidharth and Kiara's fans spotted the couple at a restaurant, and shared a video of their interaction with them. The video clip quickly made its rounds on social media, giving fans a sneak-peek into Sid and Kiara's vacation. A video shared by a fan shows Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani at a restaurant in Dubai. They were seen cheerfully talking to the fans who approached them. While Sidharth seemed engrossed in a conversation, Kiara was seen animatedly interacting with the ladies. The couple then posed for a picture with the fans. Kiara looked beautiful in an easy-breezy chrome yellow kaftan dress. She accessorized with a pearl necklace, golden earrings, watch, a pair of sunglasses and a yellow handbag.



Meanwhile, Sidharth was seen in a white tee, layered with a grey shirt and black jeans.

The 'Shershaah' couple engaged with their fans in a friendly and warm manner. They seemed to be in high spirits as they enjoyed the conversation with their fans. Check out the video below!

Meanwhile, on the professional front, Sidharth Malhotra was last seen in 'Yodha', co-starring Disha Patani and Raashii Khanna. He is gearing up for his romantic-comedy film 'Param Sundari' alongside Janhvi Kapoor. Directed by Tushar Jalota, this Dharma production movie is a cross-cultural love story between a North Indian boy and a South Indian girl. Sidharth wrapped up the Kerala shoot schedule a few days ago, before heading to Dubai for his vacay. On the other hand, Kiara Advani was last seen in 'Game Changer', alongside Ram Charan. She has several high-anticipated projects lined up, including 'War 2' co-starring Hrithik Roshan and JR NTR and 'Don 3' with Ranveer Singh.

