

जापान के राजदूत ने की बिहार के लिट्टी-चोखा की तारीफ, लिखा- 'गजब स्वाद बा'

AGENCY PATNA : बिहार के लिट्टी-चोखा का स्वाद विदेशियों को भी भाने लगा है। भारत में जापान के राजदूत केइची ओनो भी लिट्टी-चोखा के स्वाद के मुरीद हो गये हैं। दरअसल, बिहार दौरे पर आए भारत में जापान के राजदूत केइची ओनो को स्थानीय खानपान से जुड़ी थाली परोसी गई। इसमें लिट्टी-चोखा के अलावा लौंगलता, रसिया, मट्ठा, भात, बजका-कचरी के अलावा अन्य व्यंजन थे। ये सभी व्यंजन बिहार के खानपान से जुड़ी संस्कृति की पहचान हैं। केइची ओनो को इनका स्वाद चखाया गया। उन्होंने लिट्टी-चोखा की जोरदार तारीफ



लिट्टी-चोखा खाते केइची ओनो

केइची ओनो बोधगया आए थे

जापान के राजदूत ओनो पिछले सप्ताह बोधगया आये थे। उनके साथ पूरा प्रतिनिधिमंडल था जिसमें जापान टूरिज्म एजेंसी के कमिश्नर नाओया हराइकावा और जापान एंबेसी के सेकंड सेक्रेटरी यूरुता साइटो के अलावा अन्य अधिकारी भी मौजूद थे। वहां उन्होंने महाबोधि मंदिर परिसर स्थित विभिन्न स्थानों का भ्रमण किया था और बोधिवृक्ष के नीचे बैठकर ध्यान भी लगाया था। पोस्ट में बिहार दौरे के बारे में बताया एक अन्य पोस्ट में उन्होंने अपने बिहार दौरे के बारे में लिखा कि जापान टूरिज्म एजेंसी के कमिश्नर के साथ जापान सरकार द्वारा वित्त पोषित बिहार नेशनल हाईवे इम्प्रूवमेंट प्रोजेक्ट का दौरा किया। इस परियोजना से बिहार में यात्रा करने में समय की बहुत बचत होगी। इसके साथ ही इसका आर्थिक और पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने में काफी योगदान देगा। पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री शिंजो आबे भी कर चुके हैं तारीफइसके पहले जापान के पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री शिंजो आबे भी लिट्टी-चोखा के स्वाद के मुरीद हो चुके हैं। अपनी भारत यात्रा के दौरान उन्होंने इस पारंपरिक भोजन का आनंद लिया था और इसकी सादगी और स्वाद की प्रशंसा की थी।



जापान टूरिज्म एजेंसी के कमिश्नर के साथ बिहार नेशनल हाईवे इम्प्रूवमेंट प्रोजेक्ट का दौरा करते केइची ओनो

की। राजदूत केइची ओनो लिट्टी-चोखा खाते ही बोल उठे- 'गजब स्वाद बा'। उन्होंने लिट्टी-चोखा खाते ही बोल लिखा है- 'नमस्ते बिहार! अंततः विश्व प्रसिद्ध लिट्टी-चोखा खाने का मौका मिला' 'गजब स्वाद बा।' बिहारी व्यंजनों को चखने का उनका यह अनुभव अब सोशल मीडिया पर खूब वायरल हो रहा है।

BRIEF NEWS

एमएसयू के स्थापना दिवस पर उद्घोषक पंकू झा हुए सम्मानित



SAHARSA : मिथिला मैथिली एवं मैथिल लोगों के साथ साथ छात्र हित में संस्था मिथिला स्टूडेंट यूनियन विगत नौ वर्षों से सतत क्रियाशील व विकास के लिए संघर्षशील है। एमएसयू दिल्ली ईकाई द्वारा आईटीओ राजेन्द्र प्लेस में दसवां स्थापना दिवस समारोह धूमधाम से आयोजित किया गया। कार्यक्रम के दौरान एक डेग विकास लेल विषय पर विचार गोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर अनेक गणमान्य विभूतियों को सम्मानित भी किया गया।साथ ही प्रसिद्ध उद्घोषक पिटू झा को बेहतरीन उद्घोषक के रुप में सम्मानित किया गया।

बंदना प्रेयसी ने समाज कल्याण विभाग के सचिव के रूप में ग्रहण किया कार्यभार



PATNA : बंदना प्रेयसी ने आज समाज कल्याण विभाग, बिहार सरकार के सचिव के रूप में अपना कार्यभार ग्रहण किया। इससे पूर्व इस विभाग का प्रभार अपर मुख्य सचिव हरजोत कौर बम्हरा के पास था। प्रेयसी पूर्व में पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन विभाग एवं उद्योग विभाग में सचिव के रूप में कार्यरत थीं और प्रशासनिक सेवा में उनका उल्लेखनीय योगदान रहा है। कार्यभार ग्रहण के अवसर पर विभाग के सभी निदेशालयों के निदेशकों एवं अन्य वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों ने प्रेयसी का स्वागत करते हुए, उन्हें शुभकामनाएं दीं। साथ ही सचिव के पास महिला एवं बाल विकास निगम के प्रबंध निदेशक का भी चार्ज रहेगा। सचिव ने सभी अधिकारियों को निर्देशित किया कि विभाग द्वारा संचालित सभी योजनाओं का लाभ संबंधित पात्र लाभार्थियों तक समयबद्ध पहुंचाया जाए।

पशुओं के लिए भी राज्य में 261 प्याऊ का किया गया है निर्माण

गर्मियों में नहीं होगा पेयजल का संकट, विभाग ने बनाई योजना

AGENCY PATNA : राज्य सरकार ने आगामी ग्रीष्म ऋतु के दौरान संभावित जल संकट से निपटने की तैयारियों को अंतिम रूप देना शुरू कर दिया है। लोक स्वास्थ्य अभियंत्रण विभाग (पीएचईडी) द्वारा इस संबंध में व्यापक कार्ययोजना तैयार की गयी है। मंत्री नीरज कुमार सिंह के मुताबिक, चापाकलों की मरम्मत एवं रखरखाव के लिए विशेष अभियान चलाया जा रहा है। जिन पंचायतों में भू-जल स्तर नीचे चला गया है, वहां राइजर पाइप बढ़ाकर चापाकलों को क्रियाशील बनाए रखने की व्यवस्था की जा रही है।

मंत्री नीरज सिंह ने बताया कि मौजूदा वित्तीय वर्ष 2025-26 के लिए कुल 1520 गप चापाकलों के निर्माण की अग्रिम स्वीकृति दी जा चुकी है। साथ ही, चापाकलों के मरम्मत के लिए निर्धारित लक्ष्य के अनुरूप राज्यभर में कुल 1,20,749 चापाकलों की मरम्मत का कार्य शुरू कर दिया गया है। सभी चापाकलों की मरम्मत की रिपोर्ट ऑनलाइन पोर्टल पर दर्ज की जा रही है और जिओ टैग्ड फोटोग्राफ एवं सामाजिक



प्रतीकात्मक फोटो

प्रमाणिकरण भी प्राप्त किये जा रहे हैं।

गर्मी में पेयजलपूर्ति की चुनौती से निपटने के लिए लोक स्वास्थ्य अभियंत्रण मंत्री नीरज कुमार सिंह ने अधिकारियों को व्यापक दिशा-निर्देश दिए हैं। सर्वप्रथम अकार्यरत चापाकलों की तत्काल मरम्मत कराने एवं जल संकटग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में 'हर घर नल का जल' संरचनाओं के अतिरिक्त टैंकरो के माध्यम से जल आपूर्ति कराने का उन्होंने निर्देश दिया है। सार्वजनिक स्थलों, विद्यालयों और महादलित टोलों में

चापाकलों को प्राथमिकता के आधार पर दुरुस्त किया जा रहा है। साथ ही भूजल स्तर में सम्भावित गिरावट को देखते हुए पंचायत स्तर पर जल स्रोतों की स्थिति का दैनिक आधार पर आकलन किया जा रहा है। जिन क्षेत्रों में भूजल का स्तर अत्यधिक नीचे चले जाने से जलापूर्ति योजनाएं प्रभावित होती हैं, वहां टैंकरो के माध्यम से जलापूर्ति सुनिश्चित की जा रही है। जल संकटग्रस्त पंचायतों को प्राथमिकता के आधार पर जल

वितरण का रूट चार्ट तैयार किया गया है, ताकि किसी भी गांव या टोले में पेयजल की कमी न हो। पूरी व्यवस्था की जिला स्तर पर नियंत्रण कक्ष के माध्यम से निगरानी भी की जा रही है। इसके साथ ही विभाग के स्तर से जल गुणवत्ता को लेकर विशेष अभियान चलाया जा रहा है। इसके तहत उन जलस्रोतों को लाल रंग से चिह्नित किया जा रहा है, जिनमें आर्सेनिक, फ्लोराइड या आयन की मात्रा मान्य सीमा से अधिक पाई गई है।

भागलपुर-हावड़ा वंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस पर हाटपुरेनी हॉल्ट के पास पथराव, जांच में जुटे अधिकारी

AGENCY BHAGALPUR : भागलपुर और टिकानी स्टेशनों के बीच स्थित हाटपुरेनी हॉल्ट के पास ट्रेन संख्या 22310 भागलपुर-हावड़ा वंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस पर बीते सोमवार को पथराव की घटना हुई। घटना की सूचना मिलने पर भागलपुर पोस्ट से मालदा डिवाजन की रेलवे सुरक्षा बल (आरपीएफ) टीम स्थिति का आकलन करने के लिए तुरंत घटनास्थल पर पहुंची। पथराव के परिणामस्वरूप कोच संख्या सी2 (सीट संख्या 53 और 54) की खिड़की का शीशा टूटा हुआ पाया गया। सौभाग्य से किसी के घायल होने की सूचना नहीं मिली। पूरी तरह से जांच शुरू कर दी गई है। अपराधियों की पहचान करने के लिए वंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस के सीसीटीवी फुटेज की जांच की जा रही है। आरपीएफ अपराधियों की पहचान सुनिश्चित करने और कानून के अनुसार उनसे निपटने के लिए सभी आवश्यक कदम उठा रही है।



जांच के अलावा आरपीएफ पोस्ट भागलपुर के अधिकार क्षेत्र के तहत अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों द्वारा जागरूकता अभियान चलाया जा रहा है। स्थानीय निवासियों को ऐसी कार्रवाइयों के गंभीर परिणामों के बारे में जागरूक किया जा रहा है। उन्हें बताया जा रहा है कि ट्रेनों पर पत्थरबाजी रेलवे अधिनियम के तहत दंडनीय अपराध है और इससे यात्रियों की जान को खतरा है। मालदा डिवाजन ने लोगों से सार्वजनिक संपत्ति की सुरक्षा में सहयोग करने और रेलवे ट्रैक या स्टेशनों के पास किसी भी सदिग्ध या असामाजिक गतिविधि की सूचना निकटतम रेलवे अधिकारियों को देने का आग्रह किया है।

बिहार में बागवानी और जल उपयोग दक्षता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकार संकल्पित : उपमुख्यमंत्री

AGENCY PATNA : प्रदेश के उप मुख्यमंत्री-सह-कृषि मंत्री विजय कुमार सिन्हा ने आज यहां कृषि विभाग के कार्यक्रम में बताया कि राज्य में एकीकृत बागवानी विकास मिशन के अंतर्गत फलदार वृक्षों की खेती को प्रोत्साहित किया जा रहा है। इस योजना के तहत किसानों को आम और लीची की खेती के लिए 50 प्रतिशत तक तथा केला और पीपता के लिए 75 प्रतिशत तक अनुदान प्रदान किया जा रहा है। इससे राज्य में बागवानी क्षेत्र का विस्तार होगा और किसानों को फलों की खेती से अधिक लाभ प्राप्त होगा। बिहार में बागवानी और जल और उत्पादकता में भी सुधार होता है। इस योजना से खेती की लागत कम होगी और अधिक लाभ प्राप्त होगा। इन दोनों योजनाओं का उद्देश्य



के तहत ड्रिप और स्प्रिंकलर जैसी माइक्रो इरिगेशन तकनीकों को अपनाने वाले किसानों को 80 प्रतिशत तक अनुदान दिया जा रहा है। यह तकनीक न केवल जल उपयोग की दक्षता को बढ़ाती है, बल्कि इससे फसल की गुणवत्ता और उत्पादकता में भी सुधार होता है। इस योजना से खेती की लागत कम होगी और अधिक लाभ प्राप्त होगा। इन दोनों योजनाओं का उद्देश्य

केवल उत्पादन बढ़ाना नहीं है, बल्कि किसानों की आय को दोगुना करना, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में स्वरोजगार को बढ़ावा देना और बेरोजगार युवाओं को आधुनिक कृषि पद्धतियों से जोड़ना भी है। साथ ही सरकार द्वारा बागवानी और सिंचाई तकनीकों में तकनीकी प्रशिक्षण की भी व्यवस्था की गई है ताकि किसान वैज्ञानिक तरीकों से खेती कर सकें। विजय सिन्हा ने कहा कि एकीकृत बागवानी मिशन के तहत आम और लीची की खेती के लिए प्रति हेक्टेयर कुल 2 लाख रुपये की लागत आती है, जिसमें किसानों को 50 प्रतिशत का अनुदान दिया जाता है। केला और पीपता की खेती में प्रति हेक्टेयर 60 हजार रुपए की लागत आती है, जिसमें किसानों को 75 प्रतिशत का अनुदान दिया जाता है।

रक्सौल में 150 साल पुराने शिवमंदिर का हुआ पुनर्निर्माण

AGENCY EAST CHAMPARAN : जिले के रक्सौल स्थित सूर्य मंदिर परिसर से सटे लगभग 150 वर्ष पुराने पौराणिक शिव मंदिर का कायाकल्प हो चुका है। वर्षों से खंडहर अवस्था में पड़े इस मंदिर को अब एक भव्य और सुंदर स्वरूप प्राप्त हो गया है। श्रद्धालुओं के अनुसार यह शिवलिंग प्राकृतिक रूप से जनेऊ धारण किए हुए था, लेकिन 2015 में आए विनाशकारी भूकंप ने मंदिर को पूरी तरह से क्षतिग्रस्त कर दिया था। मंदिर के पुनर्निर्माण का संकल्प बिमल एवं प्रदीप रूंगटा की माता इंद्रा देवी रूंगटा ने लिया था।जो अब पूरी हो चुकी है।स्थानीय लोगों ने बताया कि 70 वर्षीय इंद्रा देवी जब मंदिर दर्शन को गईं तो उसकी जर्जर हालत देखकर भावुक हो उठीं और



अपने परिवार के सहयोग से मंदिर के जीर्णोद्धार का निर्णय लिया। इसको लेकर इंद्रा देवी ने अपने पुत्रों, पुत्रवधु रचना रूंगटा एवं पौत्र गौरांग रूंगटा के साथ मिलकर मंदिर के पुनर्निर्माण की रूपरेखा बनाई। इस कार्य में आनंद रूंगटा ने भी सक्रिय भूमिका निभाई। आज यह मंदिर एक सांस्कृतिक धरोहर के रूप में सामने आया है, जिसका गुंबद दूर से ही आकर्षण का केन्द्र बन गया है।इस भव्य मंदिर का निर्माण उज्जैन के कारीमों की कलात्मकता से हुआ है।

डॉ. अंबेडकर की मूर्ति पर पुष्प अर्पित कर संविधान व न्याय की सुरक्षा के लिए उठाई आवाज

महिला सुरक्षा व अन्य मुद्दों को लेकर भाकपा-माले ने निकाला न्याय मार्च

AGENCY BHAGALPUR : संविधान आजादी न्याय सुरक्षा सप्ताह के तहत महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के सवाल पर भाकपा-माले और ऐपवा द्वारा मंगलवार को रेशन चौक से न्याय मार्च निकाला गया। न्याय मार्च की शुरुआत डॉ. अंबेडकर की मूर्ति पर पुष्प अर्पित कर की गई। यह यात्रा मुख्य बाजार, खलीफाबाग, भगतसिंह बाजार के रास्ते घंटाघर पहुंची। आज के इस संविधान आजादी न्याय सुरक्षा सप्ताह न्याय मार्च कार्यक्रम के तहत दर्जनों पदाधिकारी और कर्मी मौजूद थे।

इस मौके भाकपा माले भागलपुर इकाई के नगर प्रभारी मुकेश मुक्त ने कहा कि दलित अति पिछड़े वर्गित



रेशन चौक से न्याय मार्च निकालते भाकपा-माले और ऐपवा के कार्यकर्ता

समुदाय की महिलाओं के खिलाफ जारी हिंसा पर जल्द से जल्द सरकार रोक लगाज। कोमल, काजल और स्नेहा को न्याय मिले।

वहीं आज के इस न्याय मार्च कार्यक्रम के दौरान वर्तमान केन्द्र और राज्य की सरकार पर जमकर निशाना साधते हुए मुकेश मुक्त ने

कहा कि बिहार में महिलाएं अपने आप को काफी असुरक्षित महसूस कर रही हैं। लड़कियों और महिलाओं के साथ गलत हो रहा है।

उसे पर सरकार पूर्ण रूपेण लगाव या ऐसे लोगों पर कड़ी से कड़ी कार्रवाई करते हुए लोगों को सजा दे। उन्होंने कहा कि बेरोजगारी महंगाई आसमान छू रही है। यहां के युवा पलायन करने को मजबूर हो रहे हैं। रोजगार नहीं मिलने से युवा त्राहिमा हैं। भ्रष्टाचार और हत्या का ग्राफ बढ़ता ही चला जा रहा है। प्रधानमंत्री और मुख्यमंत्री के कई योजनाओं में महिलाओं के लिए योजनाएं पारित तो की जाती है लेकिन धरातल पर उतरने में काफी समय लगता है। महिलाओं को उनके हक और योजनाओं का लाभ मिले। अगर सरकार ऐसे बिंदुओं पर काम नहीं करती है तो हम लोगों का आंदोलन और उग्र होगा।

AGENCY ARARIA : मिथिलांचल सहित अंग प्रदेश में मनाए जाने वाले सिरवा पर्व के मौके पर फारबिसगंज में मंगलवार को बड़ी संख्या में महिलाओं ने स्नान कर सुल्तानी माई मंदिर में पूजा अर्चना की। सतुआन के दूसरे दिन सिरवा पर्व मनाया जाता है। पुराने परम्परा के अनुसार,आज के दिन मन्तें मांगने वाली महिलाएं सुल्तान पोखर में स्नान कर हिन्दू मुस्लिम सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द का प्रतीक सुल्तानी माई मंदिर में पूजा अर्चना करती है और जिनकी मन्तें पूरी हो जाती है,वे महिलाएं पूजा अर्चना उपरांत चढ़ावा चढ़ाती हैं और भूखे गरीबों के बीच भोजन या दान आदि करती है। किंवदंती



के अनुसार,शह सुल्तान के वारिश कतई मीर द्वारा 1857-58 में ब्रिटिश हुकूमत के समय पूरे सुल्तानपुर स्टेट को सर अलेक्जेंडर हेनरी फोरबेस से कानपुर के सेठ जुगीलाल कामलापति द्वारा खरीदी जाने से पूर्व मुगल काल में एक गरीब कन्या के रूप लावण्य से मोहित सुल्तान द्वारा हिन्दू-मुस्लिम के

प्रतीक के रूप में सुल्तान पोखर खुदवाया गया था,जो आज फारबिसगंज का ऐतिहासिक धरोहर है। सुल्तान पोखर व सुल्तानी माई का मंदिर हिन्दू-मुस्लिम का सौहार्द का एक ऐसा प्रतीक माना जाता है जहां एक ही स्थान पर एक साथ दोनों समुदाय के लोग पूजा और इबादत करते हैं।



चाइल्ड काउंसलर बनकर संवारे अपना भविष्य

एक चाइल्ड काउंसलर के पास संभावनाओं की कमी नहीं है। वह स्कूल से लेकर हॉस्पिटल्स तक में काम कर सकते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त विभिन्न एनजीओ व बच्चों के लिए काम कर रही संस्थाओं में उनकी आवश्यकता होती है। वहीं आप स्पेशल स्कूल्स या बाल सुधार गृह में भी अपनी सेवाएं दे सकते हैं।

आज के तनावपूर्ण जीवन में सिर्फ बड़े ही नहीं, बल्कि बच्चे भी कई तरह की परेशानियों जैसे माता-पिता व अन्य लोगों से रिश्ते, एजाम प्रेशर व पीयर प्रेशर आदि से दो-चार होते हैं। यहां सबसे बड़ी समस्या यह होती है कि वह अपनी परेशानी किसी से शेर नहीं करते और कई बार तो अपनी परेशानियों को मन में ही रखने के कारण वह अवसादग्रस्त हो जाते हैं। ऐसे में उनकी परेशानियों को समझकर उन्हें अंधेरे से निकालकर उजाले में लाने का काम करते हैं चाइल्ड काउंसलर। यह एक ऐसा क्षेत्र है, जहां पर व्यक्ति को दूसरों की सहायता करके एक अजीब सी संतुष्टि का अनुभव होता है।

क्या होता है काम

एक चाइल्ड काउंसलर बच्चों के व्यवहार और भावनात्मक मुद्दों पर उनकी सहायता प्रदान करते हैं। साथ ही वह बच्चों के डेवलपमेंट मुद्दों जैसे चिंता, नींद, पर्सनैलिटी डिसऑर्डर व ईटिंग डिसऑर्डर को भी दूर करते हैं। उनका मुख्य काम पहले बच्चों के साथ एक रिश्ता विकसित करना होता है ताकि वह अपने मन की उन बातों को भी साझा करें, जिसे वह किसी से भी नहीं कह पाते। इसके बाद वह उनकी बातों को सुनकर व उसके हाव-भावों के जरिए उसके मन की परेशानी को गहराई से समझते हैं। वह न सिर्फ बच्चों को काउंसिल करता है, बल्कि समस्या को जड़ से खत्म करने के लिए पैरेंट्स को भी काउंसिल करते हैं। जिससे माता-पिता बच्चों के मन की बात समझकर उनके लिए सपोर्ट सिस्टम बन सकें।

स्किल्स

जो लोग एक सफल चाइल्ड काउंसलर बनना चाहते हैं, उनमें कम्युनिकेशन स्किल्स व इंटरपर्सनल स्किल्स काफी अच्छे होने चाहिए। इसके अतिरिक्त उसमें बच्चे को

आसानी से सहज करने व बेहतरीन तालमेल बिटाने की भी क्षमता होनी चाहिए। अगर आप सच में एक बेहतरीन चाइल्ड काउंसलर बनने की इच्छा रखते हैं तो आपको तटस्थ व निष्पक्ष होकर बच्चे की बातों को सुनना व समझना चाहिए। अधिकतर बच्चे अपने दोस्तों या माता-पिता को महज इसलिए अपनी बात नहीं बताते क्योंकि उन्हें लगता है कि वह उनकी बात नहीं समझेंगे या फिर उन्हें गलत समझेंगे। ऐसा अनुभव उन्हें चाइल्ड काउंसलर की बातों से नहीं होना चाहिए। आपके भीतर यह क्षमता होनी चाहिए कि आप बच्चों को यह विश्वास दिला सकें कि आप उनकी बातों को सुनेंगे, जज नहीं करेंगे।

योग्यता

इस क्षेत्र में कदम रखने के लिए 12वीं के बाद साइकोलॉजी में बैचलर डिग्री कर सकते हैं। साइकोलॉजी में ग्रेजुएशन करने के बाद आप साइकोलॉजी में मास्टर डिग्री या पीजी डिप्लोमा इन गाइडेस व काउंसिलिंग कर सकते हैं। इसके बाद एमफिल या पीएचडी भी की जा सकती है।

संभावनाएं

एक चाइल्ड काउंसलर के पास संभावनाओं की कमी नहीं है। वह स्कूल से लेकर हॉस्पिटल्स तक में काम कर सकते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त विभिन्न एनजीओ व बच्चों के लिए काम कर रही संस्थाओं में उनकी आवश्यकता होती है। वहीं आप स्पेशल स्कूल्स या बाल सुधार गृह में भी अपनी सेवाएं दे सकते हैं। वहीं आप खुद का सेंटर भी खोलकर काम कर सकते हैं।

आमदनी

अगर वेतन की बात की जाए तो इसमें सैलरी से अधिक मानसिक संतुष्टि को महत्व दिया जाता है। वहीं एक स्कूल में नियुक्त काउंसलर 15000 से 20000 रूपए प्रतिमाह कमा सकता है। वहीं एक अनुभवी चाइल्ड काउंसलर की सैलरी एक बड़े स्कूल में 25000 से 30000 तक हो सकती है। इसके अतिरिक्त अगर आप किसी प्रतिष्ठित प्राइवेट हॉस्पिटल में काम कर रहे हैं तो आपकी सैलरी 30000 या उससे अधिक हो सकती है।

प्रमुख संस्थान

- दिल्ली यूनिवर्सिटी, दिल्ली
- इंदिरा गांधी नेशनल ओपन यूनिवर्सिटी, दिल्ली
- अंबेडकर यूनिवर्सिटी, दिल्ली
- पंजाब यूनिवर्सिटी, पंजाब
- जामिया मिलिया इस्लामिया, नई दिल्ली
- इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ काउंसिलिंग, नई दिल्ली



नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी टेक्नोलॉजी की एक शाखा होती है। यह अत्यंत छोटी चीजों के अध्ययन से संबंधित है और इसका उपयोग अन्य सभी विज्ञान क्षेत्रों, जैसे कि रसायन विज्ञान, जीव विज्ञान, भौतिकी, सामग्री विज्ञान और इंजीनियरिंग में किया जा सकता है।

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी क्या होती है ?

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी का वह फील्ड है जिसमें नैनोकोणों और सामग्रियों को विकसित किया जाता है, जिनका आकार नैनोमीटर की सीमा के भीतर होता है। नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी एक उभरता हुआ क्षेत्र है जो लगभग हर तकनीकी अनुशासन - रसायन विज्ञान से लेकर कंप्यूटर विज्ञान तक - अत्यंत सूक्ष्म सामग्रियों के अध्ययन और अनुप्रयोग में संलग्न है। यह अकादमिक और शोध से संबंधित शीर्ष रैंक वाले विषयों में से एक है। नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी टेक्नोलॉजी की एक शाखा होती है। यह अत्यंत छोटी चीजों के अध्ययन से संबंधित है और इसका उपयोग अन्य सभी विज्ञान क्षेत्रों, जैसे कि रसायन विज्ञान,

मास्टर पाठ्यक्रम

- नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी में एमएससी
- नैनो विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी में एमएससी
- नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी में एमटेक
- सामग्री विज्ञान और नैनो प्रौद्योगिकी में एमटेक
- नैनो प्रौद्योगिकी और नैनो सामग्री में एमटेक

डॉक्टरेट पाठ्यक्रम

- नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी में डॉक्टर ऑफ फिलॉसफी
- नैनो विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी में डॉक्टर ऑफ फिलॉसफी

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी के क्षेत्र में नौकरी के अवसर और स्कोप

जीव विज्ञान, भौतिकी, सामग्री विज्ञान और इंजीनियरिंग में किया जा सकता है। यह हमारे जीवन में क्रांति लाने और कृषि, ऊर्जा, पर्यावरण और चिकित्सा में हमारी समस्याओं के तकनीकी समाधान प्रदान करने की विशाल क्षमता के साथ अनुसंधान के क्षेत्र का तेजी से विस्तार कर रहा है।

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी डिग्री क्या है ?

यह भौतिकी, रसायन विज्ञान, गणित और आणविक जीव विज्ञान के साथ एक बहु-विषयक प्राकृतिक विज्ञान पाठ्यक्रम है।

पाठ्यक्रम और पात्रता

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी के क्षेत्र में शिक्षा स्नातकोत्तर स्तर और डॉक्टरेट स्तर पर प्रदान की जाती है। भारत में कोई भी संस्थान नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी में स्नातक पाठ्यक्रम प्रदान नहीं करता है। मैटेरियल साइंस, मैकेनिकल, बायोमैडिकल, केमिकल, बायोटेक्नोलॉजी, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और कंप्यूटर साइंस में बीटेक डिग्री या भौतिकी, रसायन विज्ञान, गणित और जीवन विज्ञान में बीएससी रखने वाले उम्मीदवार नैनो टेक्नोलॉजी में स्नातकोत्तर पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए आवेदन कर सकते हैं। नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी में स्नातकोत्तर पाठ्यक्रमों में प्रवेश के लिए उम्मीदवार को किसी मान्यता प्राप्त विश्वविद्यालय से भौतिकी,

रसायन विज्ञान, गणित और जीवन विज्ञान में बीएससी या सामग्री विज्ञान / यांत्रिक / जैव चिकित्सा / रसायन / जैव प्रौद्योगिकी / इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स / कंप्यूटर विज्ञान में बीटेक उत्तीर्ण होना चाहिए। पीएचडी कार्यक्रमों में प्रवेश के लिए उम्मीदवार को मैकेनिकल, केमिकल, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक, बायोटेक्नोलॉजी, कंप्यूटर साइंस आदि में एमटेक या फिजिक्स, केमिस्ट्री, मैटेरियल साइंस, बायोटेक्नोलॉजी, कंप्यूटर साइंस आदि में एमएससी पास होना चाहिए। उम्मीदवार 5 साल की अवधि के लिए नैनो टेक्नोलॉजी (डुअल डिग्री) में बीटेक + एमटेक भी चुन सकते हैं।

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी का स्कोप क्या है ?

आने वाली पीढ़ियों में इसका बहुत बड़ा स्कोप है। आईटी और इंटरनेट की तुलना में यह तीसरा सबसे अधिक फलता-फूलता क्षेत्र है। भारत में बैंगलोर और चेन्नई आईटी और मेडिसिन के विनिर्माण केंद्र हैं। भारत सरकार ने पहले ही नैनोसाइंस और नैनो टेक्नोलॉजी और विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग जैसी विभिन्न फंडिंग एजेंसियों को शुरू कर दिया है।

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी के लिए करियर विकल्प क्या हैं ?

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी में विशेषज्ञ या वैज्ञानिक के रूप में नौकरी मिल सकती है। जिन क्षेत्रों

में नैनोटेक्नोलॉजिस्ट रोजगार की तलाश कर सकते हैं उनमें जैव प्रौद्योगिकी, कृषि, भोजन, आनुवंशिकी, अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान, चिकित्सा आदि शामिल हैं। राष्ट्रीय भौतिक प्रयोगशाला, भारतीय खगोल भौतिकी संस्थान आदि में भी नौकरी के अवसर उपलब्ध हैं। पीएचडी वाले उम्मीदवार विश्वविद्यालयों और कॉलेजों या अनुसंधान क्षेत्रों में संकाय सदस्यों के रूप में भी शामिल हो सकते हैं।

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी में जॉब रोलस क्या हैं ?

- नैनोटेक्नोलॉजिस्ट
- वैज्ञानिक
- प्रोफेसर
- खाद्य वैज्ञानिक
- इंजीनियर चिकित्सा वैज्ञानिक

उद्योग / कंपनियां / जो इन पेशवरों को नियुक्त करते हैं :

- इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स / सेमीकंडक्टर उद्योग
- विनिर्माण उद्योग
- जैव प्रौद्योगिकी
- चिकित्सा क्षेत्र
- उत्पाद आधारित कंपनियां (खाद्य)
- अनुसंधान प्रयोगशाला

वेतन

फ्रेशर के लिए लगभग 20,000/- से 30,000 रुपये प्रति माह और अनुभवी उम्मीदवारों के लिए 1 लाख रुपये प्रति माह के वेतन की उम्मीद की जा सकती है।

नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी ऑफर करने वाले भारत के शीर्ष कॉलेज :

- भौतिकी विभाग, आईआईएससी, बैंगलोर
- भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, दिल्ली
- भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, कानपुर
- नैनो विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी स्कूल, एनआईटी, कालीकट
- एमटी इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ नैनो-टेक्नोलॉजी, एमटी यूनिवर्सिटी, नोएडा

सेक्रेटेरियल प्रैक्टिस

या ऑफिस

मैनेजमेंट और

पर्सनल सेक्रेटेरियल

प्रैक्टिस कोर्स करके

आप महत्वपूर्ण पदों

पर बैठे अधिकारियों

के पर्सनल सेक्रेटरी

बनने का अवसर

प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

इसके लिए अनेक

शॉर्ट टर्म और डिग्री

कोर्स उपलब्ध हैं।

सेक्रेटेरियल प्रैक्टिस सेक्रेटरी से मैनेजर तक

वैश्वीकरण के बाद जिस तेजी से ऑफिस की कार्यप्रणाली और स्वरूप बदला है, ऑफिस सेक्रेटरी और पर्सनल सेक्रेटरी की भूमिका भी अहम होती जा रही है। सेक्रेटेरियल प्रैक्टिस या ऑफिस मैनेजमेंट और पर्सनल सेक्रेटेरियल प्रैक्टिस कोर्स में दाखिला लेकर आप ऑफिस सेक्रेटरी या पर्सनल सेक्रेटरी बन कर एक अच्छा करियर बना सकते हैं। ऑफिस सेक्रेटरी किसी ऑफिस में प्रतिदिन होने वाले कार्यक्रमों को मैनेज करने में अहम भूमिका निभाता है। महत्वपूर्ण पदों पर बैठे व्यक्तियों के पर्सनल सेक्रेटरी बन कर आप उनके डेली रूटीन तथा ऑफिस शिड्यूल को मैनेज करते हैं। देश के विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालय और प्राइवेट संस्थान सेक्रेटेरियल प्रैक्टिस या ऑफिस मैनेजमेंट और सेक्रेटेरियल प्रैक्टिस में शॉर्ट टर्म डिप्लोमा तथा डिग्री कोर्स ऑफर करते हैं।

योग्यता तथा पढ़ाई

शॉर्ट टर्म कोर्स में प्रवेश लेने के लिए दसवीं तथा कुछ संस्थानों के लिए बारहवीं पास होना आवश्यक है। इस क्षेत्र में आगे की पढ़ाई मसलन डिग्री तथा डिप्लोमा कोर्स करने के लिए बारहवीं पास होना अनिवार्य योग्यता है। इन कोर्सों के लिए अच्छी कम्युनिकेशन स्किल का होना अतिआवश्यक है। इन कोर्सों का मुख्य उद्देश्य छात्र को सेक्रेटरी के उत्तरदायित्वों को समझाना, सेक्रेटेरियल कार्यों के लिए गुणों का विकास करना, संगठन या ऑफिस की कार्यप्रणाली को समझाना तथा कंप्यूटर, इंटरनेट, फैक्स आदि ऑफिस में प्रयोग होने वाले उपकरणों को ऑपरेट करना सिखाया जाता है। शॉर्ट

टर्म कोर्स में शॉर्ट हैंड, टाइपराइटिंग, कंप्यूटर बेसिक्स, बिजनेस कम्युनिकेशन तथा पर्सनैलिटी डेवलपमेंट विषय पढ़ाए जाते हैं। लेकिन डिप्लोमा तथा डिग्री कोर्सों में इन विषयों के अलावा मैनेजमेंट, अकाउंट, कंपनी लॉ और बैंकिंग सर्विसेज विषयों के बारे में जानकारी दी जाती है।

संभावनाएं

कोर्स करने के बाद सरकारी तथा प्राइवेट क्षेत्रों में सभी तरह के

दफ्तरों में सेक्रेटरी की जॉब मिलती है। लेकिन हाल में मल्टीनेशनल, पब्लिक सेक्टर कंपनियों तथा होटल्स में रिकल्ड सेक्रेटरी और ऑफिस सेक्रेटरी के जॉब की अपार संभावनाएं हैं। बैंकों, वित्तीय संस्थानों, लॉजिस्टिक फर्म तथा टैवल एजेंसी में भी सेक्रेटरी के रूप में जॉब कर सकते हैं। अपनी योग्यता तथा अनुभव से आप सेक्रेटरी से जॉब शुरू करके ऑफिस मैनेजर बन सकते हैं।



मीडिया, स्त्री और सनसनी

सूचना और संचार की इस तीव्र गति वाली दुनिया में मीडिया का प्रभाव जितना व्यापक हुआ है, उतना ही गहरा भी। आज किसी घटना की रिपोर्टिंग केवल सूचना देने तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि वह एक नैरेटिव, एक छवि और कभी-कभी एक पूर्वग्रह को भी जन्म देती है। जब स्त्री से जुड़ी घटनाओं की नीयत पर शक करने लगें जब वह विवादास्पद हों- जैसे धोखाधड़ी, झूठे आरोप या ब्लैकमेलिंग, तो मीडिया का रुख कहीं अधिक सनसनीखेज और पक्षपाती हो जाता है। यह चिंता का विषय है। पिछले कुछ वर्षों में कई ऐसी घटनाएं देखी गईं, जहां महिलाओं पर पुरुषों को झूठे मामलों में फंसाने के आरोप लगे। कुछ मामलों में ये आरोप सही भी साबित हुए। लेकिन, प्रश्न यह है कि क्या इन गिने-चुने मामलों के आधार पर हर औरत भरोसे के लायक नहीं जैसी सोच विकसित करना जायज है। क्या यह सही है कि मीडिया इन घटनाओं को इस तरह प्रस्तुत करे कि पूरा समाज स्त्रियों की नीयत पर शक करने लगे। वास्तव में यह सोच एक लंबे समय से पनप रही उस मानसिकता का हिस्सा है, जो स्त्री को या तो देवी के रूप में पूजती है या खलनायिका के रूप में टुकराती है। बीच का कोई स्थान बचा ही नहीं। अखबार की सुर्खियां देखें या न्यूज चैनलों की हेडलाइन सुने, तो एक बात स्पष्ट नजर आती है- स्त्री से जुड़ी घटनाओं को ज्यादा उत्तेजक, भावनात्मक और आकर्षक तरीके से पेश किया जाता है। उदाहरण के लिए- प्रेमिका निकली सौतन की हत्यारिन, महिला टीचर ने छात्र से बनाए शारीरिक संबंध, बीवी ने पति को प्रेमी संग मिलकर मरवाया। ऐसी खबरें समाज में एक ख़ास सोच को मजबूत करती हैं कि स्त्रियां कपटी, चालाक और अवसरवादी होती हैं। हकीकत यह है कि पुरुषों द्वारा किए गए अपराधों को इतनी सनसनी के साथ नहीं दिखाया जाता। वहां मानसिक तनाव, पारिवारिक दबाव या सामाजिक अस्वीकृति जैसे कारण खोज लिए जाते हैं। मीडिया अक्सर स्त्री को या तो पूरी तरह पीड़ित के रूप में दिखाता है या फिर पूरी तरह अपराधिनी के रूप में। लेकिन, हकीकत इससे कहीं अधिक जटिल है। हर महिला जो धोखा देती है, वह स्वाभाविक रूप से बुरी नहीं होती, और हर महिला जो पीड़ित है, वह स्वाभाविक रूप से पवित्र नहीं होती। इसी व्यवहार कई सामाजिक, मानसिक और भावनात्मक कारकों से बनता है। जब मीडिया इन पहलुओं की उपेक्षा करके केवल एक सनसनीखेज चेहरा दिखाता है, तो वह सच्चाई को तोड़-मरोड़कर पेश करता है। हाल के वर्षों में कई ऐसे मामले सामने आए, जिन्होंने इस विषय को और जटिल बना दिया। जैसे- फर्जी यौन उत्पीड़न के आरोप लगाकर ब्लैकमेलिंग का मामला महिला द्वारा पति को फंसाकर तलाक और संपत्ति हथियाने की कोशिश। सोशल मीडिया पर 'फेमिनिज्म' का इस्तेमाल करके जनभावनाओं का दोहन। इन घटनाओं का मीडिया में खूब प्रचार हुआ, लेकिन इनसे जुड़ी कानूनी प्रक्रिया, जांच के निष्कर्ष या महिला के पक्ष की गहराई से पड़ताल शायद ही कभी दिखाई गई। यह बात मानना भी गलत होगा कि पुरुष वर्ग सर्वत्र पीड़ित होता है। सेकड़ों-हजारों महिलाएं आज भी घरेलू हिंसा, बलात्कार, यौन उत्पीड़न और मानसिक शोषण की शिकार हैं। हर साल महिला सुरक्षा से जुड़े आंकड़े भयावह तस्वीर पेश करते हैं। ऐसे में यदि कुछ मामलों में महिलाएं दोषी पाई जाती हैं, तो उससे पूरे स्त्री वर्ग को कटघरे में खड़ा कर देना न केवल अन्याय है, बल्कि सामाजिक संतुलन के लिए भी खतरनाक है। मीडिया को लोकतंत्र का चौथा स्तंभ कहा गया है, लेकिन जब यह स्तंभ टीआरपी की दौड़ में नैतिकता भूल जाए, तो समाज की नींव डगमगाने लगती है। पत्रकारिता का काम सूचना देना है, विचार बनाना नहीं। लेकिन, आज मीडिया अक्सर मूड बनाता है, मत गढ़ता है और फैसला सुनाता है। यह प्रवृत्ति न्याय व्यवस्था से भी आगे निकलने का दावा करती है- जिसे हम मीडिया ट्रायल कहते हैं। जहां मुख्यधारा मीडिया की सीमाएं हैं, वहीं सोशल मीडिया ने तो हर किसी को जज बना दिया है। वाट्सएप, फॉरवर्ड, ट्विटर ट्रेंड और इंस्टाग्राम रील्स हर जगह स्त्री के चरित्र और नीयत पर सवाल उठाए जा रहे हैं। हर औरत गोल्ड डिगर है, औरतें सिर्फ फायदे के लिए प्यार करती हैं- जैसे जुमले सोशल मीडिया पर सामान्य हो चुके हैं। यह माहौल केवल स्त्रियों के लिए नहीं, बल्कि युवा पुरुषों के लिए भी हानिकारक है, जो रिश्तों में भरोसे की जगह शक लेकर आते हैं। हमारे समाज की सबसे बड़ी कमजोरी यही है कि हम एक घटना से पूरे वर्ग के लिए निष्कर्ष निकाल लेते हैं। किसी महिला ने धोखा दिया, इसका अर्थ यह नहीं कि हर महिला अविवशसनीय है। उसी तरह एक पुरुष बलात्कारी निकला तो हर पुरुष को संदेह की नजर से नहीं देखा जा सकता। हमें घटना और व्यक्ति को उनके सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक संदर्भ में देखने की आदत डालनी होगी। आज जब मीडिया समाज की सोच को तय कर रहा है, तब पत्रकारों, संपादकों और न्यूज रूम की जिम्मेदारी कहीं अधिक है। उन्हें यह तय करना होगा कि वे सच दिखा रहे हैं या सच बेच रहे हैं। साथ ही हमें (दर्शकों, पाठकों और नागरिकों) यह जिम्मेदारी लेनी होगी कि हम हर खबर पर आंख मूंदकर विश्वास न करें। समाज तब ही संतुलित रहेगा, जब हम स्त्री और पुरुष दोनों को गुण, दोष, भावना और सीमाओं के साथ ईमान समझें। मीडिया अगर इस संतुलन को नहीं समझेगा तो वह सूचना का वाहक नहीं, बल्कि पूर्वग्रह का प्रसारक बन जाएगा।

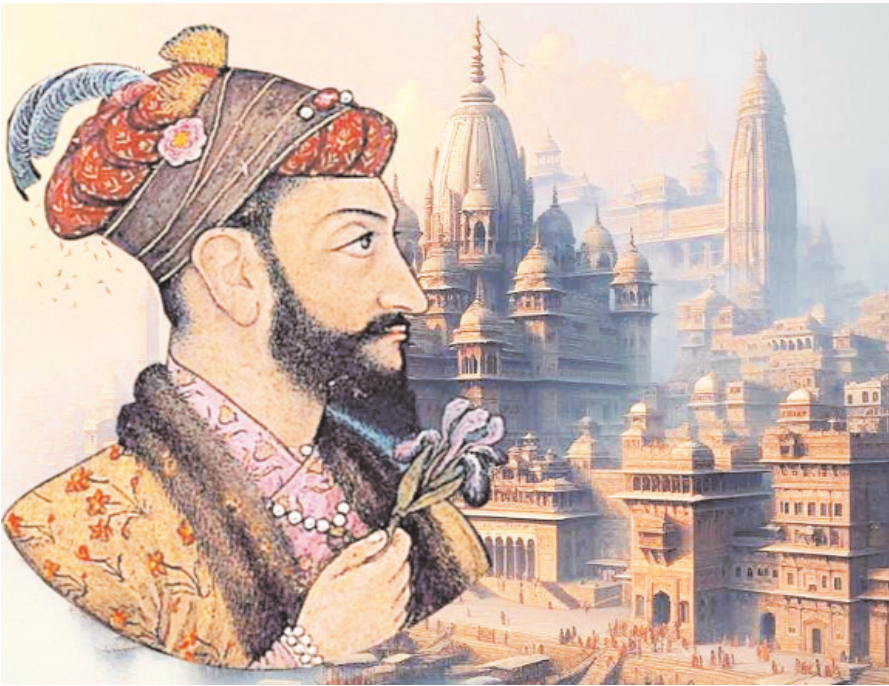
ANALYSIS



रमेश शर्मा

मुगल बादशाह औरंगजेब ने अपनी सत्ता और शक्ति से पूरे भारत से सनातन धर्म को समाप्त करने का अभियान चलाया और भारत के सभी हिंदू मंदिरों को नष्ट करने का आदेश दिया था। यह आदेश 09 अप्रैल 1669 को निकाला गया था। भारत के इतिहास में औरंगजेब की गणना सबसे क्रूर शासकों में होती है। उसकी क्रूरता का अनुमान इसी से है कि उसने अपने पिता को कैद में डाला और भाइयों की हत्या करके गद्दी पर अधिकार किया था। वह केवल क्रूर ही नहीं था। उसकी क्रूरता यहीं तक नहीं रुकी थी। औरंगजेब ने दारा शिकोह का सिर काटकर पिता को तोहफे में भेजा था। उसने अपनी एक बेटी को जेल में डाल दिया था और एक बेटे की मौत का फरमान जारी किया था। औरंगजेब केवल क्रूर ही नहीं, बहुत चालाक और कूटनीतिक भी था। उसने अपनी क्रूरता और चालाकी को ढंकने के लिए कुछ धमाकांच्यों और लेखकों की एक टोली जमा कर रखी थी। भला कौन सा पंथ पिता को कैद में डालने और भाइयों की हत्या करने वाले को अच्छा कहेगा। लेकिन, औरंगजेब की इस चांदुकार टोली ने उसके हर क्रूर कामों पर पर्दा डाला। दुनिया के सभी पंथ मानवता की बात करते हैं।

लगभग सभी विदेशी आक्राताओं ने भारतीय संस्कृति को नष्ट कर अपने रंग में रूपांतरित करने का अभियान छेड़ा था। सबका अपना-अपना तरीका रहा। अंग्रेजी काल में भ्रम फैलाकर तो सल्तनत काल में ताकत और तलवार के जोर पर। मुगल बादशाह औरंगजेब ने अपनी सत्ता और शक्ति से पूरे भारत से सनातन धर्म को समाप्त करने का अभियान चलाया और भारत के सभी हिंदू मंदिरों को नष्ट करने का आदेश दिया था। यह आदेश 09 अप्रैल 1669 को निकाला गया था। भारत के इतिहास में औरंगजेब की गणना सबसे क्रूर शासकों में होती है। उसकी क्रूरता का अनुमान इसी से है कि उसने अपने पिता को कैद में डाला और भाइयों की हत्या करके गद्दी पर अधिकार किया था। वह केवल क्रूर ही नहीं था। उसकी क्रूरता यहीं तक नहीं रुकी थी। औरंगजेब का सबसे बड़ा भाई दारा शिकोह पिता के लिए अति प्रिय था। औरंगजेब ने दारा शिकोह का सिर काटकर पिता को तोहफे में भेजा था। उसने अपनी एक बेटी को जेल में डाल दिया था और एक बेटे की मौत का फरमान जारी किया था। औरंगजेब केवल क्रूर ही नहीं, बहुत चालाक और कूटनीतिक भी था। उसने अपनी क्रूरता और चालाकी को ढंकने के लिए कुछ धमाकांच्यों और लेखकों की एक टोली जमा कर रखी थी। भला कौन सा पंथ पिता को कैद में डालने और भाइयों की हत्या करने वाले को अच्छा कहेगा। लेकिन, औरंगजेब की इस चांदुकार टोली ने उसके हर क्रूर कामों पर पर्दा डाला। दुनिया के सभी पंथ मानवता की बात करते हैं।



किंतु,क्षऔरंगजेब का अभियान ईसानियत पर नहीं, तलवार के जोर पर था। उसने पूरे भारत को रूपांतरित करने का अभियान चलाया। औरंगजेब ने न केवल मतांतरण न करने वाले हिंदुओं पर जजिया बढ़ाया और सख्ती से वसूली के आदेश दिए, अपितु अपने साम्राज्य के अंतर्गत आने वाले सभी 21 सुबों में मंदिरों को तोड़ने का आदेश भी जारी किया। हिंदुओं को सार्वजनिक तौर पर सभी तीज-त्योहार मनाने पर रोक लगा दी। 09 अप्रैल 1669 को जारी हुए इस आदेश का उल्लेख औरंगजेब की जीवनी पर आधारित पुस्तक मआसिर-ए-आलमगीरी में है। इस पुस्तक के लेखक औरंगजेब के दरबारी साकी मुस्ताइद खान हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त इस आदेश का उल्लेख वाराणसी गजेटियर के पेज नंबर- 57 पर भी है। यह गजेटियर 1967 में प्रकाशित हुआ था। औरंगजेब के इस आदेश के बाद

पूरे भारत में मंदिरों को तोड़ने का अभियान चला। कुल कितने मंदिर तोड़े गए, इसकी संख्या कहीं नहीं मिलती। सेना जिस बड़े और प्रसिद्ध मंदिर को ध्वस्त करती तो उसकी सूचना दरबार में भेजी जाती। इन सूचनाओं का उल्लेख औरंगजेब की जीवनी में मिलता है। औरंगजेब के शासन में उन स्थानों को भी धूल धूसरित किया गया, जो पहले किसी शासक ने तोड़े तो थे। लेकिन, स्थानीय श्रद्धालुओं ने इन खंडहरों को थोड़ा सुधार कर भजन पूजन आरंभ कर दी थी। इनमें अयोध्या, मथुरा, काशी और सोमनाथ मंदिर भी थे। औरंगजेब के प्रपितामह अकबर ने अयोध्या में चबूतरा बनाकर भजन पूजन की अनुमति दे दी थी लेकिन, औरंगजेब ने उस चबूतरे को भी ध्वस्त करके मस्जिद परिसर में शामिल करने का आदेश दिया। सोमनाथ मंदिर का विध्वंस 1025 में मेहमूद गजनवी ने किया था। मथुरा आदि

अन्य स्थानों में भी पूर्व आक्राताओं द्वारा ध्वस्त मंदिर स्थलों में थोड़ा-बहुत सुधार कर- के भजन प्रार्थना आदि होने लगे थे। लेकिन, औरंगजेब की सेना ने सनातन के इन सब खंडहर को भी दोबारा तोप से उड़ाया। वहां जितने श्रद्धालु मिले वे या तो मार डाले गए अथवा मतांतरण करने की शर्त पर ही जीवित छोड़े गए। औरंगजेब के इस आदेश से जिन मंदिरों को पुनः तोड़ा गया, उनमें सोमनाथ के अतिरिक्त काशी विश्वनाथ मंदिर, मथुरा में केशवदेव मंदिर, अयोध्या में रामलला मंदिर, अहमदाबाद का चिंतामणि मंदिर, बीजापुर का मंदिर, वड़नगर के हथेश्वर मंदिर, उदयपुर में झीलों के किनारे बने 3 मंदिर, विदिशा का बीजामंडल, उज्जैन के सभी मंदिर, सवाई माधोपुर में मलारना मंदिर आदि थे। औरंगजेब के इस आदेश से मथुरा का वह गोविंद देव मंदिर भी तोड़ दिया गया, जो 1590 में राजा

मानसिंह द्वारा बादशाह अकबर की अनुमति से बनवाया था। औरंगजेब के आदेश से मंदिरों का विध्वंस करने के साथ वे सभी विद्यालय भी नष्ट कर दिए गए, जिनमें भारतीय पद्धति से शिक्षा दी जाती थी। ग्रंथालय जला दिए गए और शिलालेख तोड़ दिए गए थे, ताकि भारत की आने वाली पीढ़ियां अपने गौरवमयी इतिहास और परंपराओं से अवगत ही न हो सकें। औरंगजेब के आदेश पर ध्वस्त अधिकांश मंदिर स्थलों पर मस्जिदों का निर्माण कराया। अयोध्या में जन्मस्थान पर बनी मस्जिद के विस्तार के साथ हनुमानगढ़ी पर भी एक मस्जिद का निर्माण कराया गया। इसके अतिरिक्त स्वर्गद्वीर मंदिर और ठाकुर मंदिर स्थल पर मस्जिद निर्माण के आदेश दे दिए गए। यद्यपि अकबर के शासन काल में भी मंदिरों का विध्वंस हुआ था, किंतु कहीं-कहीं पूर्व में विध्वंस किए गए मंदिरों के खंडहरों में पूजन पाठ की अनुमति दे दी गई थी। लेकिन, औरंगजेब ने सार्वजनिक स्थलों पर सनातन परंपराओं के पूजन पाठ पर पूरी तरह रोक लगा दी थी। औरंगजेब के पूरे शासन काल में इस प्रकार के पूजन पाठ पर पूरी तरह रोक लगा दी थी। औरंगजेब के पूरे शासन काल में भारत पर लगभग 49 वर्ष तक शासन किया। उसका पूरा शासनकाल विध्वंस और क्रूरता से भरा रहा। वह जिस स्थान पर गया, वहां उसने क्रूरता का कैसा कहर बरपाया, इसका विवरण स्वयं उसकी जीवनी में है। इसका अंग्रेजी सहित अन्य भाषाओं में भी अनुवाद उपलब्ध है।

(लेखक वरिष्ठ पत्रकार हैं)

बांग्लादेश के लिए घातक साबित होगा भारत का कूटनीतिक प्रहार

एक पखवाड़ा पहले बांग्लादेश की अंतरिम सरकार के मुख्य सलाहकार मोहम्मद युनुस ने जब चीन जाकर राष्ट्रपति शी जिनिंग्ग को भारत के पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों से सटे लालमोनिरहाट में अपना एयरबेस बनाने का न्योता दिया था, तो वे नहीं जानते थे कि वे कितना बड़ा दुस्साहस कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने डींग हांकते हुए बांग्लादेश को भारत के इन सीमांत राज्यों का गार्जियन (संरक्षक) तक घोषित कर दिया। 26-29 मार्च के बीच चीन यात्रा के दौरान युनुस ने कि हम एक घटना से पूरे वर्ग के लिए निष्कर्ष निकाल लेते हैं। किसी महिला ने धोखा दिया, इसका अर्थ यह नहीं कि हर महिला अविवशसनीय है। उसी तरह एक पुरुष बलात्कारी निकला तो हर पुरुष को संदेह की नजर से नहीं देखा जा सकता। हमें घटना और व्यक्ति को उनके सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक संदर्भ में देखने की आदत डालनी होगी। आज जब मीडिया समाज की सोच को तय कर रहा है, तब पत्रकारों, संपादकों और न्यूज रूम की जिम्मेदारी कहीं अधिक है। उन्हें यह तय करना होगा कि वे सच दिखा रहे हैं या सच बेच रहे हैं। साथ ही हमें (दर्शकों, पाठकों और नागरिकों) यह जिम्मेदारी लेनी होगी कि हम हर खबर पर आंख मूंदकर विश्वास न करें। समाज तब ही संतुलित रहेगा, जब हम स्त्री और पुरुष दोनों को गुण, दोष, भावना और सीमाओं के साथ ईमान समझें। मीडिया अगर इस संतुलन को नहीं समझेगा तो वह सूचना का वाहक नहीं, बल्कि पूर्वग्रह का प्रसारक बन जाएगा।

है, इस कारण भारत का चिंतित होना जायज है। भारत के उत्तर-पूर्वी राज्य असम, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, मणिपुर, मेघालय, नगालैंड, मिजोरम, त्रिपुरा और सिक्किम का सामूहिक रूप से बांग्लादेश के साथ 1596 किमी लंबी अंतरराष्ट्रीय सीमा, चीन के साथ 1395 किमी, म्यांमार के साथ 1640 और भूटान के साथ 455 किमी तथा नेपाल के साथ 97 किमी सीमा है, लेकिन ये केवल 22 किमी की एक पट्टी के माध्यम से भारत के बाकी हिस्सों से जुड़े हैं, जिसे चिकन नेक कॉरिडोर कहा जाता है। यह बेहद संकरा मार्ग है। इसके दक्षिण में बांग्लादेश और उत्तर में नेपाल, भूटान और चीन हैं। यह करीब 60 किमी लंबा और 21 किमी चौड़ा है। चिकन नेक कॉरिडोर ही पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों को देश के अन्य हिस्सों से जोड़ता है। काफी संकरा होने के कारण चीन, बांग्लादेश और पाकिस्तान की नजरें हमेशा से इस पर रही हैं। अगर बांग्लादेश के जरिए चीन यहाँ अपनी आर्थिक या सामरिक पकड़ बनाता है तो यह भारत के लिए सुरक्षा खतरा बन सकता है। कुछ दिनों की खामोशी

के बाद भारत ने मंगलवार आधी रात अचानक बांग्लादेश के लिए ट्रांसशिपमेंट यानी भारत के बंदरगाहों और हवाई अड्डों से कारोबार करने की सुविधा बंद कर उसकी आर्थिक रीढ़ पर जोरदार चोट की है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय जगत में इसे बांग्लादेश पर भारत का बड़ा कूटनीतिक आर्थिक प्रहार माना जा रहा है। भारत ने बांग्लादेश को यह सुविधा तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री शेख हसीना के साथ हुए ट्रांसशिपमेंट एग्रीमेंट के तहत एक सकुलर से 29 जून 2020 को दी थी। यह सकुलर बांग्लादेश से तीसरे देशों को निर्यात कार्गो के ट्रांसशिपमेंट की अनुमति देता था, जो भारतीय बंदरगाहों और हवाई अड्डों के रास्ते भारतीय भूमि का उपयोग करता था, ताकि भूटान, नेपाल और म्यांमार जैसे देशों को बांग्लादेश का व्यापार हो सके। 8 अप्रैल को केंद्रीय अप्रत्यक्ष कर और सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड (सीबीआईसी) पुराने सकुलर को रद्द कर दिया। थिंक टैंक ग्लोबल ट्रेड रिसर्च इनिशिएटिव (जीटीआरआई) के प्रमुख अजय श्रीवास्तव का कहना है कि नए सकुलर के साथ, ट्रांसशिपमेंट

व्यवस्था तुरंत प्रभाव से समाप्त कर दी गई है। विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता रणधीर जायसवाल ने इसकी पुष्टि करते हुए कहा, बांग्लादेश को ट्रांसशिपमेंट सुविधा से भारत के बंदरगाहों व हवाई अड्डों पर असुविधा होने के साथ भारतीय निर्यात की लागत बढ़ रही थी और समय पर उत्पाद निर्यात करने में देरी होने लगी थी। ऐसे में 8 अप्रैल 2025 से यह सुविधा समाप्त की जा रही है। दरअसल, पिछले वर्ष अगस्त में बांग्लादेश में शेख हसीना की सरकार गिराने के बाद से वहां भारत विरोधी गतिविधियां काफी बढ़ गईं। हाल ही चीन यात्रा के दौरान युनुस का बयान भारत में चर्चा का विषय बना हुआ था। अब भारत की ओर से जो निर्णय लिया गया है, जिसे कूटनीतिक भाषा में काउंटर मूव कहा जाता है। युनुस की यह दिष्णगी ऐसे समय में आई है, जब बांग्लादेश की अर्थव्यवस्था संकट में है और वह चीन से निवेश की उम्मीद कर रहा है। चीन ने पहले ही मॉंगला पोर्ट के लिए 400 मिलियन डॉलर और चटगांव में आर्थिक जोन के लिए 350 मिलियन डॉलर का

वादा कर रखा है। भारत ने बांग्लादेश के एक्सपोर्ट कार्गो के लिए ट्रांसशिपमेंट सुविधा समाप्त कर देने से बांग्लादेश, भारत होकर भूटान, नेपाल और म्यांमार को निर्यात नहीं कर पाएगा। भारत का यह कदम बांग्लादेश को साफ संदेश देता है कि वह अपनी सामरिक स्थिति का दुरुपयोग करके भारत के हितों को चुनौती नहीं दे सकता। भारत के इस निर्णय से पहले ही आर्थिक रूप से बद्रहाल बांग्लादेश का व्यापार खासा प्रभावित होगा। म्यांमार, नेपाल और भूटान को अपना सामान भेजने के लिए अब उसे मरगा और लंबा रास्ता तय करना पड़ेगा। भूटान, नेपाल और म्यांमार तीसरे देशों के साथ व्यापार के लिए भारतीय रास्तों पर निर्भर हैं। पहले भारत से होकर जाने वाला रास्ता आसान था। इससे समय और पैसे की बचत होती थी। अब बांग्लादेश के व्यापारियों को ज्यादा समय लगेगा, ज्यादा खर्चा आएगा और अनिश्चितता बढ़ेगी। यह सुविधा बंद करने से भारत के लिए सामरिक चुनौती पैदा करने वाले दो पड़ोसी देशों पाकिस्तान और चीन के साथ रक्षा व कारोबारी संबंध बढ़ाने में

जुटे बांग्लादेश की मोहम्मद युनुस के नेतृत्व वाली अंतरिम सरकार को भारत ने बड़ा सबक दिया है। भारत का यह फैसला पहले से घटने निर्यात और अमेरिकी सरकार की तर्फ से बांग्लादेश पर 37 फीसदी पारस्परिक शुल्क की घोषणा से बांग्लादेश की अर्थव्यवस्था और बुरी तरह प्रभावित कर सकता है। बांग्लादेश म्यांमार को मुख्य रूप से वस्त्र, दवाइयां और खाद्य उत्पाद जैसे आलू और मछली निर्यात करता है, वहीं म्यांमार से बांग्लादेश मुख्य रूप से लकड़ी, समुद्री उत्पाद और कुछ कृषि उत्पाद आयात करता है। इसी तरह बांग्लादेश और नेपाल दोनों देश दक्षिण एशियाई क्षेत्रीय सहयोग संगठन (सार्क) के सदस्य हैं, जो सदस्य देशों के बीच व्यापार को बढ़ावा देता है। बांग्लादेश नेपाल को मुख्य रूप से तैयार वस्त्र, जूट उत्पाद, चाय पैकेजिंग सामग्री, और कुछ औद्योगिक सामान निर्यात करता है बदले में बांग्लादेश यार्न (घागा), दाल, हर्बल उत्पाद, और हस्तशिल्प आयात करता है। 2023 में बंगलाबंध भूमि बंदरगाह खुलने से नेपाल से यार्न का आयात बढ़ा है।

Social Media Corner

सच के हक में...

हिमाचल दिवस की राज्य के सभी लोगों को अनेकानेक शुभकामनाएं। गौरवशाली संस्कृति के लिए विद्युत्वात इस प्रदेश के मेरे भाई-बहन अनेक पत्रिभ्रम, प्रतिभा और पाकरक्रम के लिए जाने जाते हैं। यह विशेष अवसर आप सभी के जीवन में सुख-समृद्धि और आरोग्य लेकर आए, साथ ही हमारी देवभूमि को प्रगति के पथ पर अग्रसर करे, यही कामना है।

(प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी का 'एक्स' पर पोस्ट)

हजारीबाग में पेट्रोल पंप मैनैजर की हत्या और 16 लाख रुपए लूट की घटना से स्तब्ध हूं। झारखंड में पूरी तरह से जंगलराज व्याप्त हो चुका है। एक ओर दुर्गा सोरेन जी के संघर्ष से खड़ी गई विरासत पर हेमंत सोरेन खुद की ताजपोशी में व्यस्त हैं, दूसरी ओर अपराधी खुलेआम हत्या कर तांडव मचा रहे हैं। हजारीबाग में कुछ दिन पहले हुई एनटीपीसी अधिकारी की हत्या अभी भी लोगों के मन मस्तिष्क में ताजा है, अब पेट्रोल पंप मैनैजर की हत्या ने उन्हें फिर से झकझोर कर रख दिया है। लाभ-लश्कर के साथ विदेशी जानी की तैयारी कर रहे हेमंत सोरेन क्या इसी कानून व्यवस्था के आधार पर निवेश मांगेंगे। शरीरात को दित में रखने वाली झामुमो ने अपने अधिवेशन में क्या हत्या की घटनाओं को रोकने का प्रस्ताव पारित किया।

(बाबूलाल मरांडी का 'एक्स' पर पोस्ट)



ICYMI #TheTribuneOpinion: From Tahawwur Rana to Trump & Waqf Act

As the week came to a close, TV news channels were abuzz with the visuals of US President Donald Trump after US’s aggressive trade policy and the landing at Delhi airport of 26/11 Mumbai attacks conspirator Tahawwur Rana. What else was significant? Probably, the Waqf Amendment Act row and a couple of other stories. To understand the how and why behind these headlines and other significant events that unfolded this past week, the editorial pages of The Tribune offer deeper insights and analysis.

The Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, perhaps, has kicked off a political storm in the country, highlighting the BJP’s strategic move and the Opposition being caught on the defensive. Despite initial reservations, the BJP’s key allies ultimately backed the Waqf Bill. On their home turf, they could face backlash from Muslim constituents, but for the shrewd BJP, it has achieved its objective and has now distanced itself from the political fallout. If you want to know more on this, read our April 9 Opinion piece ‘Waqf row lays bare political churn’ by senior journalist Radhika Seshan. If Waqf is heating up our domestic politics, Trump’s trade policy is sending the entire globe into a tizzy.The US’s aggressive trade policy — imposing heavy tariffs on much smaller economies like Bangladesh and Cambodia — has ushered in a new era of economic nationalism under the "Make America Great Again" banner.

Also in Trump’s crosshairs is India, but we should desist an eye-for-an-eye approach that China seems to have taken. And in case you missed it, that’s precisely what our OP-ED page article on April 8, ‘India’s strategy to win the trade war’ by former Planning Commission member Arun Maira, discusses. It says that our approach has to be the one with strategic reforms as the key to strengthening our economy from within.

As far as trade relationships with both the US and China are concerned, India could find itself walking a tightrope. The US wants India to open its markets more for American agricultural produce that could harm the interests of India’s farmers. At the same time, India must show obstinacy to avoid becoming a dumping ground for Chinese exports, redirected due to US tariffs on China.Our next article, which caught many eyeballs, is ‘The sounds of silence from Pakistan’ by The Tribune Editor-in-Chief Jyoti Malhotra. As the extradition of Tahawwur Rana, one of the key accused in the 26/11 Mumbai attacks, made headlines in the Indian media, the Pakistani press remained mum. Not a word. The writer quotes a 2015 article from The Dawn newspaper in which Tariq Khosa, a former chief of Pakistan’s Federal Investigative Agency, has categorically revealed his agency’s findings that one of the perpetrators, Ajmal Kasab, was a Pakistani national, that training camps where he was trained had been identified and all the other details of that terrible act of violence.Giving versatility to the reader, The Tribune’s Assistant Editor Harvinder Khetal’s article talks about reverse extinction. Bioengineered dire wolves, Romulus, Remus, and Khaleesi, will walk the Earth again 12,000 years after their extinction. She raises a valid point—are we correcting the past wrongs or rewriting nature’s scripts for our own narrative satisfaction? Read more of it in the op-ed article ‘Romulus, Remus, Khaleesi & Ethics of Resurrection’.If you thought you were relatively safer with bottled water than tap water, give it a second thought. In another eye-opener, ‘Plastic in every sip; the toxic truth about bottled water’, Guru Nanak Dev University’s ex-professor SS Sekhon writes about how bottled water presents hidden dangers to both human health and the environment and that tap water is still a better choice.

Goyal’s dukaandari jibe draws startups ire

Goyal’s criticism on the labour front was quite disingenuous. The startups have created millions of jobs, which the government has also lauded.

Trump has launched an insane tariff war, which Industries and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal is trying to fend off. In its midst, Goyal has launched his own mini-war with Indian startups, taking potshots at the latter’s obsession with dukaandari instead of competing with China on deep-tech.In what is unusual for Indian businesses, many startups retorted, defending their record and questioning the government’s policy and contribution in supporting the country’s fledgling startup ecosystem. Was Goyal justified in questioning the startups’ contribution? Are Indian startups doing a bad job? Is the government startup policy also responsible?Holding a meme/ chart titled 'India vs. China, The Startup Reality Check', the origins of which are not clear, Goyal launched a broadside against Indian startups on April 3. Questioning their fascination with retail ecommerce, competing with shopkeepers in delivering groceries instead of focussing on high-tech products, Goyal said: "Are we looking at dukaandari or are we looking to compete globally with our innovations.... Are we going to make ice-creams or (semiconductor) chips?"

Goyal further questioned the startups for turning Indian youth into low-paid workers: "What are Indian startups doing today? Turning unemployed youth into cheap labour; serving the rich to get their meals without moving out of their houses."The lack of domestic investment in startups also upset him: "I only wish that they had more India investors rather than foreigners buying all of our startups."These barbs came during Goyal's address at the 'Startup Mahakumbh', where captains of the startup industry were expecting to be lauded for creating the third largest startup ecosystem in the world and being the poster boys of the Modi government's claim of building Digital India.Indian businessmen rarely question the government, ministers and bureaucrats. The unfair criticism, triggered by a meme, probably of foreign origin, egged the young pioneers, who have worked hard to build their startups to respond with sarcasm and plain-speak. An e-commerce startup honcho said all global successful startups, including Amazon, started as consumer internet companies and scaled the technology curve later, building cloud computing networks and other high-tech products.Another startup ideologue bemoaned the lack of long-term patient capital in India for deep-tech startups to thrive and the struggles high-tech startups



undergo to find takers for their products.A startup founder designing semiconductor chips called out Indian clients (private sector, government, defence) for their attitude. He said that when approached for orders, they rebuff: "You build it then we will decide" or "we won't buy, you go and find if there is a market for this." He asserted that no startup would waste two years and burn Rs 10-20 crore on products if there was no committed buyer.

Some founders shared heart-rending stories of corruption, delays, excessive paperwork and harassment. Goyal had certainly not bargained for this pushback.

India has about 30-40 million offline wholesalers and retailers (dukaandaars) whom Goyal has to protect for various reasons. The e-commerce industry has made deep inroads in their domain by making purchases and delivery more efficient, convenient and cheaper using digital technologies and entrepreneurial innovations, including 10-15 minute deliveries. While it has made the life of the consumers better, it has put the dukaandaars’ roji-roti at risk.To protect the dukaandaars, the government has restricted FDI to e-commerce platforms (cannot sell their own goods). FDI in manufacturing of branded high-tech consumer products is subject to the impractical domestic value-addition condition. Such conditions contained threats from foreign companies, but not domestic startups, from taking businesses away from the

dukaandaars. The age of digital commerce is here. Goyal's lambasting of the startups will not alter its course.

Goyal's criticism on the labour front was quite disingenuous. The startups have created millions of jobs, which the government has also lauded. Their delivery agents earn about Rs 1.8 lakh per annum, which is higher than the average per capita private consumption of Rs 1.45 lakh.On the other hand, the jobs which the government claims to have created are mostly wage-less ones. As per the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2023-24, between 2017-18 and 2023-24, India created 8.4 crore jobs in agriculture and 5.9 crore jobs of 'unpaid labour in household enterprises'. These jobs comprise almost 88 per cent of all the new jobs created. They only increased disguised unemployment or created no-wage jobs.Goyal also laid the blame for the drought of domestic investment at the wrong door. The government had been taxing only domestic capital investment in startups (known as angel tax), not foreign investment. It was only in the July 2024 Budget that this tax was removed, albeit with prospective effect, leaving all legacy cases pending.

The domestic investors, including government-owned public sector banks, LIC, etc, are, unfortunately, quite risk-averse. The angel tax played on their nerves, making them stay away from the startups as their failure rate is more than 25 per cent and profits come after a long lag and burn of capital.Thus, the criticism made by Goyal, flustered by the mirror shown by the meme, is not only wrong but also inappropriate and misdirected.

Goyal later tried to justify his remarks as an "appeal" and an effort to "shake up the ecosystem." He promised to make a substantial allocation from the government's Rs 10,000-crore fund of fund (FoF) for early-stage and deep-tech startups. He also promised to launch a helpline for startups to register complaints and provide feedback on policies.The startup community has also toned down its criticism, having made its point elaborately. It is hard to believe that the FoF, which has been in operation for six years and has hardly created any successful startup, will be of any great help in building startups producing high-tech products and that the new helpline, if and when set up, will make any difference.

Bengal burns

Waqf law violence points at deeper distrust



West Bengal’s Murshidabad district has become the latest flashpoint in the country’s communal and legislative landscape, where three lives were lost and over 150 arrests made in violent protests against the Waqf (Amendment) Act. What began as a legal concern has spiralled into bloodshed, with a father-son duo reportedly hacked to death and vehicles torched. At the heart of the unrest is growing suspicion over the powers granted to Waqf boards, especially regarding land registration and ownership. Protesters argue that the amended Act allows sweeping control over properties without adequate safeguards or consultation. This perception has stoked fears of land encroachment and demographic manipulation — narratives that political actors are quick to exploit.

The BJP has accused the ruling TMC of shielding Waqf interests at the cost of the majority community,

alleging that Hindus are being forced to flee violence-hit areas. Whether substantiated or not, such claims only deepen communal divides. Meanwhile, the

Centre’s decision to deploy additional forces reflects both the seriousness of the situation and the state’s inability to contain the crisis. This violence isn’t just a law-and-order failure; it is a political and administrative one. There is unease within the TMC that CM Mamata Banerjee is not handling the situation properly. The situation has even prompted a clamour for the imposition of President’s rule in the state, though limited to the BJP.The lack of public awareness and transparency around the implications of the Waqf Act has left space for misinformation to breed. Instead of engaging in meaningful dialogue with stakeholders, the state has allowed a legal reform to morph into a communal tinderbox. West Bengal must rise above its political compulsions and reassert its commitment to secular governance. Immediate compensation and justice for victims to prevent further flare-ups are urgent steps.

Doon din shows girls are a class apart

The all-boys school is feeling the heat as its results are not good enough to win over aspirants’ parents

Girls to the rescue! That’s what a large section of the Doon School management is hoping for. No doubt, coeducational institutions get better grades simply because there are girls on their rolls and not because boys get smarter in their company. The all-boys Doon School is feeling the heat too as its results are not good enough to win over parents of prospective students. The management’s solution: let’s go co-ed. This has sent shivers up the spines of some of the old boys, many of whom spend evenings talking about their schooldays like soldiers swapping war stories. Doon School has put out some big-game sociological rationales too for going co-ed. One of them is to curb “toxic masculinity”. This screenshot homily is meant to soften the core message, namely, boys must be put in their place, preferably in purdah, and let girls step in to right the ship.Girls always do better in Classes X and XII than boys do. This trend has firmed up over time and now it’s like a law of nature. Ironically, no matter how well women might perform academically, their job status has never been equal to that of men. It is slowly climbing up both in India and in the West, but the gap is still big, especially in jobs that require skills in mathematics and engineering. This is a worldwide phenomenon.

According to the 2023 Global Gender Gap report, this is largely because subjects like science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are expensive. As most parents in countries like India finance their sons more readily, this is why girls lose out. Yet, this trend holds in the West as well. Here, we need to put an old canard to rest; girls score higher than boys in all subjects, and not just in the humanities.That’s not all. In a study conducted by

the NCERT, girls are as gifted as boys in maths and much better than them in language skills. A 2019 Delhi Government statement goes further and states that girls in its schools outperformed boys in Class X maths as well. There are many examples of girls scoring a perfect 100 per cent in maths. M Gayatri, Vanshika, Nandika and more are the Nadia Comaneci of board exams.It is, therefore, not easy to explain why women are not as prominent in STEM-related jobs, or in higher echelons of the workforce. In this regard, the data offered by the American Association of University Professors is illustrative. The percentage of US women in STEM has gone up steadily, partly because a growing number of American men find these courses too onerous and are not signing up for them as they did before.

Even so, women remain a minority in engineering and computing sciences but figure impressively in life sciences. Unfortunately, here grants are not that many, and jobs too are not as well paid. STEM-related areas, in terms of employment and research, get more research funds and facilities than do biological sciences. Of course, women fare much better in the social sciences, where research funds and endowments are the least of all. Men dominate wherever there is competition because they are more aggressive. In academia, for example, citations are very important and scholars are judged on the number of times their works are referred to in

learned texts. Women are, generally, reticent in beating their drum but men seem to have no such hesitation. For example, men cite their own publications 70 per cent more than women do.



Modesty clearly does not work.

Women also tend to speak less in board meetings, ask fewer questions and don’t crave attention. This often gives the impression that they are easy to push around. Big bosses like little bosses who are like themselves and take pride in being a role model, a kind of Jack Welch, for all occasions. Unlike men, women are more concerned about their colleagues and less committed to giving their persona a sharp

and bloody edge.It has been reported that in the US Army and Navy Academy, boys and girls are taught with different kinds of emphasis. They are not segregated in any obvious way and go through the same curriculum. At the same time, the academy believes that girls learn better when they are taught through lectures in the tried-and-tested fashion. Boys, on the other hand, absorb their lessons more when they are banded into competitive teams.

This lines up with the finding that men are quick to publicise their work and, consequently, win favour with research fund-granting agencies. Women don’t quite showcase themselves as effectively and this may be an innate feature that works against them. The Indian NGO sector too gives evidence of this because men again dominate the top posts, particularly in larger organisations where there is greater pressure for funds and contacts.

There may not be a declared prejudice against hiring women, but it works subconsciously and it is here that aggression holds the key. People are remembered and even admired for being overbearing and assertive. In an all-women utopia, speaking loudly would perhaps be a crime. We need girls to make our schools look good, but later, in the workplace we switch allegiance and prize the domineering men.

Top Banks That Have Reduced Lending Rates Since Last Week --Old Vs New Interest Rates

New Delhi. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently reduced the key repo rate by 25 basis points to 6 per cent, prompting several banks to realign their Savings deposit and Fixed Deposit (FD) offerings. While several banks have revised FD interest rates, others have either ended special deposit schemes or launched new ones.

A week after RBI's rate cut announcement, several banks have also reduced their lending rates that will have a positive impact on the common borrowers. These rate reductions are a reflection of the industry's attempt to stay competitive while adhering to the central bank's directives. In line with RBI interest rates reduction, Bank of Maharashtra has reduced its repo-linked lending rate (RLLR) has been reduced from 9.05% to 8.80%. State Bank of India State Bank of India has cut its External Benchmark Based Lending Rate (EBLR) by 25 basis points from 8.65 percent to 8.90 effective from 15 April 2025. RBI has also revised its interest rate on home loan to 8.25 percent.

Bank of India
Bank of India has announced a reduction of 25 basis points in its home loan interest rates, benefitting both new and existing customers. With this revision, the home loan rate stands reduced to 7.90% p.a. based on CIBIL score. In addition to home loans, Bank of India has also reduced interest rates by 25 basis points across select existing retail loan products, including vehicle loan, personal loan, loan against property, education loan and Star reverse mortgage loan.

RBI To Buy Govt Bonds Worth Rs 40,000 Crore On April 17

Mumbai. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday announced that it will conduct an Open Market Operation (OMO) purchase of government bonds worth Rs 40,000 crore on April 17.

The move aims to manage evolving liquidity conditions in the financial system, the central bank said in an official statement. This bond purchase will be in addition to the Rs 80,000 crore worth of government securities already announced on April 1, which is being conducted in four equal tranches of Rs 20,000 crore each on April 3, 8, 22, and 29. "In a review of current and evolving liquidity conditions, the Reserve Bank has decided to conduct an OMO purchase auction of Central Government's securities for an aggregate amount of Rs 40,000 crore to be held on April 17" the RBI stated. The central bank will purchase multiple government securities through a multi-security auction using the multiple price method. The bonds include those maturing between 2028 and 2039, such as the 7.37 per cent GS 2028, 7.32 per cent GS 2030, 6.54 per cent GS 2032, and 7.18 per cent GS 2033, among others. However, the RBI clarified that there is no security-wise notified amount and reserves the right to decide on the quantum of purchase of each security. Participants can submit their bids electronically via the RBI's E-Kuber platform from 9:30 am to 10:30 am on the auction day. In case of any system failure, physical bids will also be accepted. The results of the auction will be announced on the same day, and successful participants must ensure the availability of securities in their SGL account by 12 noon on April 21. Reiterating its commitment to maintain financial stability, the RBI said it would continue to monitor liquidity and market conditions closely and take necessary measures to ensure smooth liquidity in the system.

How TikTok became a popular tool for Chinese manufacturers to circumvent US tariff policies

New Delhi. US TikTok users are increasingly encountering a surge of videos from Chinese content creators encouraging Americans to purchase goods directly from Chinese factories—an apparent strategy to sidestep the Trump administration's tariffs. These viral clips, often filmed at manufacturing facilities purportedly producing for major US brands like Lululemon Athletica Inc. and Nike Inc., emphasize the Chinese origin of many consumer products. "Why don't you just contact us and buy directly? You won't believe the prices we offer," says one creator in a video promoting luxury handbags, according to Bloomberg. In a widely circulated clip, TikTok user @LunaSourcingChina showcases a factory she claims produces Lululemon yoga leggings for just \$5 to \$6, compared to retail prices exceeding \$100 in the US. "The material and craftsmanship are basically the same," she asserts. Lululemon has since responded, clarifying that only about 3% of its finished goods are made in Mainland China and stressing that authentic Lululemon products are sold exclusively through its official channels and partners. Although many of these videos were uploaded as early as March, they've recently gained significant traction amid heightened US-China trade tensions. A video titled "China exposed the truth" has amassed 8.3 million views and 492,000 likes. The clip allegedly exposing a Lululemon supplier drew 2.6 million views and over 215,000 likes, while another, titled "How we bypass tariffs," neared 1 million views and 118,000 likes.

Alex Goldenberg, senior intelligence analyst at the Network Contagion Research Institute at Rutgers University, views the trend as a deliberate push to weaken President Trump's tariff policies and elevate Chinese manufacturing via TikTok's powerful algorithm. While the actual legal mechanics of tariff avoidance through direct-to-consumer purchasing remain murky—especially with the small-parcel duty exemption set to expire May 2—the phenomenon raises questions about tariff efficacy and the broader impact on American consumers.

USD vs INR: CA explains which one actually holds more value

Earning is USD doesn't always mean being richer
Inflation has reduced USD value considerably over time
Indian salaries may grow, but increasing taxes cut into raises

New Delhi. Think earning in US dollars automatically makes you richer, but CA Nitin Kaushik warns otherwise. He reveals that once inflation, taxes, and currency depreciation hit, the picture isn't as bright. In a recent post on X,



Kaushik gave a blunt reality check, reminding us that true income depends on what remains after inflation, taxes, and currency drops. Kaushik explained with an example: imagine holding \$1,000. With inflation in the US hovering around 5%, that same \$1,000 will feel more like \$950 next year. Now convert that into Indian rupees, and you'll face another issue—the rupee loses around 4–5% of its value against the dollar every year. That's a double hit. The dollar loses strength in the US, and the rupee weakens at home. He added that some people argue that salaries in India grow faster. Though he doesn't deny it, he questions whether that trend still holds true today. "But ask

yourself—how many of you are getting a 10% raise every year today?" he asks. Even if someone is, rising taxes—both direct and indirect—eat into whatever gains are made.

"This is why India's Savings-to-GDP ratio has hit a 50-year low. More people are earning, yet saving less than ever before," he added. Over the past decade, the US dollar has lost about 35% of its value due to inflation. But the Indian rupee has fallen even more, dropping 3–5% every year. Why? It's a mix of reasons—higher interest rates in the US, trade deficits in India, foreign investors pulling money out, and a generally stronger dollar. All these add pressure on the rupee.

Meanwhile, Kaushik reminds us that real income isn't just about your salary—but what's left after all the deductions. With inflation and taxes eating away at earnings, he questioned: "Are you really growing wealth, or just running on a treadmill?"

Serentica Renewables, NTPC sign pact to supply 200 MW clean energy to UP



NEW DELHI. Serentica Renewables on Tuesday said it has signed an agreement with state-owned NTPC to supply 200 MW of renewable energy to Uttar Pradesh. As part of the power purchase agreement (PPA), the 200

MW on-demand renewable energy will be supplied to distribution companies (discoms) of Uttar Pradesh, Serentica Renewables said in a statement. Akshay Hiranandani, CEO of Serentica Renewables, said, "This

agreement exemplifies our commitment to providing reliable and sustainable renewable energy solutions. By integrating solar, wind, and advanced storage technologies, we can offer Uttar Pradesh a consistent, firm energy supply, particularly during times of high demand, contributing to the state's energy transition goals."

He said the firm dispatchable renewable energy (FDRE) model ensures that "we can deliver clean energy when it's most needed, contributing to the state's energy transition."

Serentica Renewables, a leading renewable independent power producer (IPP), has 1,000 MW of renewable energy capacity, with ongoing projects across multiple states, leveraging a mix of solar, wind, energy storage, and advanced balancing solutions.

Confusion reigns after Trump exempts electronics from new tariff regime. Here's what we know

NEW DELHI. Confusion over President Donald Trump's tariffs remains following a weekend of questions around trade in consumer electronics. On Friday the Trump administration paused its new taxes on electronics imported into the US—signaling some relief from trade wars that have particularly escalated with China, a major exporter of technology from smartphones to laptops. But these goods remain subject to other levies. And officials have also indicated that additional, sector-specific tariffs targeting electronics are on the way—all of which economists warn will raise costs and lead to higher prices for consumers.

Are electronics exempt from Trump's newest tariffs? Late Friday, the US Customs and Border Protection said that electronics, including smartphones and laptops, would be excluded from broader, so-called "reciprocal" tariffs—meaning these goods wouldn't be subject to most

tariffs levied on China to date or the 10% baseline levies imposed on other countries. But US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick later said that this was only a temporary reprieve—telling ABC's "This



Week" on Sunday that electronics will be included under future sector-specific tariffs on semiconductor products, set to arrive in "probably a month or two." And not all of the levies that the US has imposed on countries like China fall under the White House's "reciprocal" categorization. Hours after Lutnick's

comments, Trump declared on social media that there was no "exception" at all, adding to confusion. Trump instead argued that these goods are "just moving to a different" bucket. He also said that China will still face a 20% levy on electronics imports as part of his administration's prior move related toentanyl trafficking. How has China responded? On Sunday, China's commerce ministry welcomed a partial reprieve on consumer electronics—but continued to call for the US to completely cancel the rest of its tariffs. Chinese President Xi Jinping reiterated that on Monday, writing in an editorial jointly published in Vietnamese and Chinese official media that "there are no winners in a trade war." He added that both China and the US "should resolutely safeguard the multilateral trading system, stable global industrial and supply chains, and open and cooperative international environment."



said the RBI circular. When the agency bank is calculating pension, the branch should continue to be a point of referral for the pensioner lest he/she feels disenfranchised.

All branches having pension accounts should guide and assist the pensioners in all their dealings with the bank. Suitable arrangements should be made to place the arithmetic and other details about pension calculations on the web, to be made available to the pensioners through the net or at the branches at periodic intervals, as may be deemed necessary and sufficient advertisement is made about such arrangements.

All claims for agency commission by banks in respect of pension payments must be accompanied by a certificate from ED/CGM in charge of government business that there are no pension arrears to be credited/ delays in crediting regular pension/arrears thereof.

All agency banks disbursing pension are advised to provide considerate and sympathetic customer service to the pensioners, especially to those pensioners who are of old age.

Sensex, Nifty jump 6% in two sessions. Are Dalal Street bulls back on track

While the sharp rebound in equity markets has reignited investor enthusiasm, experts are urging caution amid ongoing global uncertainties, especially around the US trade policy.

New Delhi. Benchmark stock market indices have bounced back and how! Both the Sensex and Nifty50 have jumped 6% in just two trading sessions, alongside a massive drop in volatility. At around noon, Sensex was trading 1,600 points or 2% higher, while the Nifty50 gained nearly 500 points, also above 2%. Most broader market indices, including the small-cap and mid-cap segments, registered strong gains during the session. What's more important is that volatility on Dalal Street fell sharply today after US President Donald Trump hinted at more tariff pauses. The gains were broad-based, with auto, banking, financial services, realty and metal sectors leading the charge. Many heavyweight stocks,

including Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank and SBI, rose sharply during the trading session. Only four Nifty50 stocks were trading in the red, signalling strong bullish momentum on Dalal Street.

WHAT SHOULD INVESTORS DO NOW?

While the sharp rebound in equity markets has reignited investor enthusiasm, experts are urging caution amid ongoing global uncertainties, especially around US trade policy. The two-day rally may have delivered some much-needed relief, but the road ahead could still be bumpy.

Dr VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, pointed out that Indian markets are lagging global peers in the current rebound. "The S&P 500 has jumped 9% from April lows, while the Nifty is up just 3%. There is some catching up to do, and this, along with short-covering, could keep markets buoyant in the near term," he said. However, he warned that the uncertainty triggered by President

Trump's aggressive tariff stance is far from over. "Investors must realise that this volatility is not just going away. Sectoral tariffs are expected, and this could again put pressure on sectors like Indian pharmaceuticals," he added.

In such a scenario, Vijayakumar recommends focusing on strong domestic



consumption themes. Sectors like financials, telecom, aviation, hospitality and healthcare are seen as relatively insulated from global shocks and offer better earnings visibility.

Anand James, Chief Market Strategist at Geojit, echoed the need for caution.

While he acknowledged that the market has digested some of the worst-case trade war fears, he highlighted that volatility remains high. "India VIX may have come down, but it is still over 46 percent above the levels seen before last week's sell-off. That tells us the risk appetite is still fragile," he explained. James believes that while there is room for the Nifty to move higher, traders should be wary of overstretching positions. "Unless we see a steep fall in volatility, chasing prices beyond the 23,000 mark may be premature. That said, a breakout above that level could open the door to 23,400 or even 24,000, though such a move would need strong triggers and much calmer global cues," he said. The rally has legs, but it is running on tricky terrain. For investors, this is a time to be selective rather than aggressive. Stick to quality names, focus on domestically driven sectors and avoid knee-jerk buying in high-beta stocks. The rally may not be over, but neither are the risks.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta lays foundation stone for projects in Shalimar Bagh

Addressing the gathering, Gupta reiterated the Delhi government’s commitment to enhancing infrastructure across the capital.

NEW DELHI. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for several key development projects in the Shalimar Bagh assembly constituency.

The CM inaugurated the beautification of four public parks located in Ambedkar Colony and Haiderpur, while also laying the foundation for the construction of a main road and drainage system from the Haiderpur bus stand to the nearby canal.

Addressing the gathering, Gupta reiterated the Delhi government’s commitment to enhancing infrastructure across the capital. “Our goal is to provide every citizen with better facilities and create a safe and accessible environment,” she said. The CM emphasised that improving roads, healthcare, educational institutions, transport services and maintaining a clean environment are the government’s top priorities. “We envision a Delhi that not only addresses present-day needs but also



builds a sustainable foundation for future generations. Our aim is to create an empowered, self-reliant, and inclusive capital that will serve as a model for the entire nation,” Gupta said. Highlighting the recently completed beautification work at the four public parks in Ambedkar Colony, Gupta noted that these parks are now equipped with amenities such as swings for children, seating arrangements for senior

citizens and horticultural landscaping. “These parks will not just serve as recreational spaces but will also be hubs of social harmony and inspiration for the community,” she added. Additionally, the CM laid the foundation for a long-demanded infrastructure project—the construction of a main road and drainage system from the Haiderpur bus stand to the canal. The initiative aims to enhance local connectivity and address waterlogging issues in the area. In her address, Gupta also paid tribute to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, stating, “The life of Babasaheb Ambedkar inspires us with his values of dedication, struggle, and equality. We are not only commemorating him but actively working to implement his ideals on the ground.” She further stressed that the Delhi government remains committed to the welfare of all citizens, with particular attention to empowering marginalised communities.

New policy to regulate e-rickshaws in the offing



NEW DELHI. The Delhi government is working on a new policy to regulate e-rickshaws, which have become a common mode of last-mile transport but are also contributing to growing traffic congestion and safety concerns. Despite a ban on 236 major roads in the capital due to their low speed and impact on traffic flow, e-rickshaws continue to operate illegally, flouting rules daily.

Officials said the government may bring mandatory registration, commercial licensing, and other regulations for e-rickshaws either as part of a separate policy. They also said that certain conditions requiring mandatory registration from the dealers who sell the e-rickshaws could also be incorporated under the new Electric Vehicle (EV) policy draft of the government which is yet to receive an approval.

In recent years, e-rickshaws have flooded bus stands, metro stations, and major intersections, often causing traffic snarls. The Delhi Traffic Police issued 2,78,090 challans in a year for rule violations by e-rickshaws, highlighting the scale of the problem.

Though registration and a valid commercial driving license are mandatory for operating e-rickshaws, officials estimate that around 50 percent of these vehicles remain unregistered. Many drivers also operate without licenses, and incidents of minors driving e-rickshaws have also been reported.

Trilokpuri fights overflowing drains

NEW DELHI. For the past two months, residents of Trilokpuri in East Delhi have been living amid burst sewer lines and overflowing drains, with no respite despite repeated complaints to civic authorities.

A ground visit by this newspaper revealed that streets in Blocks 30, 31 and 32 of Himmatpuri are inundated with filthy water. Several homes are reportedly affected, with residents forced to endure unsanitary and hazardous conditions. “This has been the situation here since February. We have complained to every civic agency, but none of them have responded appropriately,” said Surbhi Negi, a resident of Block 30.

Local resident Sanjay Gupta said workers from the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) had visited the area a week ago but left most drains unrepaired. “Besides, they just remove silt from the drains and leave it on the side of the roads,” he said, pointing to stagnant piles of sludge lining the lanes.

Last week’s rainfall worsened the situation, causing widespread waterlogging and knee-deep sewage on the roads. “Waterlogging is a persistent problem for us every monsoon. But this time, we are afraid that the situation will become unbearable,” said another resident. Residents said local MLA Ravi Kant had assured them that the issue would be resolved by April 1. However, there has been no action on the ground so far.

The issue of poor drainage management came under scrutiny last year when heavy rainfall caused widespread flooding and infrastructure damage across Delhi. Following the deluge, it was revealed that only 290 of the 713 drains under MCD’s jurisdiction had been desilted ahead of the monsoon. In response, the Delhi government had announced an ambitious drain-cleaning initiative for 2024. The Irrigation and Flood Control (I&FC) Department has assured the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that 23 of Delhi’s 24 major drains would be desilted by May 31, 2025. However, the Najafgarh drain, the city’s largest, will take longer, with a deadline of June 2027.

Woman's body with gunshot injuries found in Delhi



NEW DELHI. A woman's body with gunshot injuries was found in the GTB Enclave of Delhi's Shahdara, police said on Tuesday. Police said they received a PCR call late on Monday night that a woman had been shot and was lying unconscious.

A police team from GTB Enclave station rushed to the spot and found the woman's body. Upon examination, two bullet wounds were found on her body, the official said. “The woman appears to be around 20 years old. We are working to ascertain her identity,” the official said in a statement.

The area was cordoned off and a crime team was called to inspect the scene. Police are scanning CCTV footage from nearby areas to identify the culprits, the official said. Police said a case of murder has been registered in the matter.

No-parking of End-of-Life Vehicles on roads, move to ‘free public space’



NEW DELHI. The Delhi government has issued guidelines for 55 lakh End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV), prohibiting public space for their parking. These vehicles cannot be parked on streets, roads, or parking lots. Owners must park their vehicles inside their premises. If such vehicles are found in public spaces, a penalty of Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000 will be imposed. In addition, the transport department is also planning to deny fuel to these vehicles in the coming days.

The notice issued by the department says, “The government has deregistered 5.5 million over-aged vehicles (diesel vehicles more than 10 years old and petrol/CNG vehicles more than 15 years old). The list of such vehicles can be accessed by visiting the transport department site. There is a complete prohibition on parking over-aged vehicles, including in areas just outside residences, which are considered public places.” On March 6, Transport Minister Pankaj Singh announced a plan to check unregistered vehicles, which the government claimed is one of the main contributory factors to traffic congestion in the national capital. After finalising the initiative, Singh had directed the transport department and traffic police to take immediate action against vehicles operating without proper registration.

Additionally, orders were issued for petrol pump operators not to supply fuel to unregistered or unfit vehicles. “If they don’t comply with the orders, they will also face penalties,” the minister said.

The transport department has asked the owners of all such vehicles to either keep them inside the residential complex in a private parking space or obtain a no-objection certificate to move them out of the NCT of Delhi within one year of their expiry date. No NOC shall be issued after one year of the expiry of an overaged vehicle.

The owners can also get their vehicles scrapped at any nearby registered vehicle scrapping facility.

Guidelines

55 lakh End-of-Life Vehicles (ELVs) can’t be parked on streets, roads, or parking lots

Owners must park their vehicles inside their premises

Penalty of Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000 on violations

ELVs are diesel vehicles more than 10 years old and petrol/CNG more than 15 years old

Two auto-rickshaw drivers arrested for robbing IB official at knifepoint

Police investigation revealed that the duo followed the victim from a bar in Paharganj before executing the robbery. The robbers took his wallet, which contained his cards and Rs 1,500 in cash.

NEW DELHI. Two auto-rickshaw drivers were arrested on charges of robbing an Intelligence Bureau (IB) official at knifepoint near the RK Ashram Marg traffic signal in central Delhi.

The victim, Manish Pandey, a security assistant executive with the IB, was waiting for an auto-rickshaw when the incident took place, police said on Monday. The accused have been identified as Akhtar Raja (41), a resident of Aram Bagh, and Ghulam Raza (25), a resident of Nand Nagri.

Police investigation revealed that the duo followed the victim from a bar in Paharganj before executing the robbery. According to a senior police

officer, Pandey reported that he was robbed at knifepoint around 1 am on April 11 while waiting at the traffic



signal. The robbers took his wallet, which contained his debit card, credit card, voter ID card, Aadhaar card, CGHS card, and Rs 1,500 in cash.

“A case was registered at Mandir Marg police station and a thorough investigation was initiated. Police reviewed CCTV footage from the area and identified an auto-rickshaw that appeared suspicious. Raja, the driver of the vehicle, was apprehended and confessed to his involvement in the crime. He also implicated his associate, Raza,” said DCP (New Delhi) Devesh Kumar Mahla.

Raja admitted to following the victim from the Paharganj bar and later dropping off Raza near the RK Ashram Marg signal, where Raza carried out the robbery. The police recovered the stolen items and the knife used in the crime.

Six air quality monitoring stations by June 30 to check pollution

NEW DELHI. Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa has announced that the Delhi government will install six new ambient air quality monitoring stations across the capital by June 30. The move is aimed at expanding the city’s air monitoring network to improve real-time tracking and response to pollution.

The new stations will come up at prominent locations including Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Delhi Cantonment, Netaji Subhash University (West Campus), and the Commonwealth Games Sports Complex. “These new stations will help us track pollution patterns more accurately and guide our response with real-time data. The installation process is underway and we are targeting completion by June

30,” Sirsa said. With the addition of these six stations, the total number of monitoring units in the capital will increase to 46.

The initiative is part of the BJP-led



government’s broader strategy to bolster Delhi’s air quality infrastructure and better prepare for recurring episodes of smog and poor

air during the winter season.

“We will not wait until winter to take action. Our work to purify Delhi has already started, and as part of this, we will also add new ambient air quality monitoring stations,” Sirsa said. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta had first announced the plan to set up the new stations in March. The city’s current network of 40 monitoring units includes locations such as Alipur, Anand Vihar, Aya Nagar, Bawana, Chandni Chowk, IGI Airport, and ITO.

However, gaps remain in the coverage. Several densely populated areas still lack adequate monitoring, while some existing stations are located in sparsely inhabited zones such as the Asola Bhatti Forest and Siri Fort, raising concerns about the representativeness of air quality data.

Delhi government lines up flyovers, underpasses to ease city traffic snarls

The court, in its order, noted that there was neither documentary proof nor any witness to support the claim that the funds were entrusted to the accused.

NEW DELHI. A Delhi court has overturned the conviction of a former accountant at the National Heart Institute, previously sentenced to three years’ imprisonment for allegedly embezzling Rs 55 lakh, citing a complete lack of incriminating evidence.

Additional Sessions Judge Lovleen delivered the judgment on April 4, allowing the appeal filed by Sachin Suri against a March 2024 magistrate’s order that found him guilty under Section 408

of the Indian Penal Code, which pertains to criminal breach of trust by a clerk or servant.

The case, originally built upon accusations from the institute’s accounts officer, S K Shailly, alleged that Suri had failed to deposit Rs 55 lakh into the employer’s bank account during his tenure. Shailly’s oral testimony claimed he had discovered discrepancies in the account, which eventually pointed to 11 bank entries revealing the shortfall.

However, the court found that the prosecution’s case was solely dependent on these claims, unsupported by legally admissible evidence. Notably, the court stated that the entries presented were mere printouts of an electronic record, not accompanied by the mandatory Section 65B certificate of the Indian Evidence Act, a legal requirement for the admissibility of digital records.

“The testimony of the accounts officer



must be discarded summarily,” the judge said, emphasising that no credible evidence had been brought on record to demonstrate that Suri ever received the funds in question from the institute.

The court further noted that there was neither documentary proof nor any witness to support the claim that the funds were entrusted to the accused. “The prosecution has not submitted any register or document reflecting Suri’s acknowledgment of receipt of these

sums,” the order said.

Even the forensic analysis failed to bolster the case. Deposit slips examined by the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Rohini produced an inconclusive handwriting report, offering no clarity on whether the entries were indeed linked to Suri. Moreover, the court dismissed the audit report provided by the institute. It cited two primary reasons: the prosecution did not call the report’s preparer to testify, and the document itself bore a disclaimer stating that it should not be treated as an audit opinion, as it was not prepared in accordance with standard auditing practices.

“The prosecution has miserably failed to prove entrustment of Rs 55 lakh to the accused. Without that, the conviction cannot stand,” the judge concluded, thereby setting aside the earlier judgment.

NEWS BOX

North Philadelphia: Shooting near Temple University leaves one dead, 2 injured

UPDATED. A late Monday night shooting in North Philadelphia left one man dead and two others injured, according to police.The incident occurred on the 1500 block of North 18th Street, just blocks away from Temple University, local news reported. Police responded to the location where three men had been shot. The victims were taken to a local hospital, where one of them was pronounced dead. Authorities haven't provided any details regarding the two victims.

Police haven't arrested anyone and the motive behind the attack is still not known. The investigation is ongoing as the police carry on with the search for suspects and obtaining additional information on the incident.

20,000 REWARD OFFERED

The Philadelphia Police Department is offering a \$20,000 reward for any information leading to an arrest in connection to the shooting. People are being asked to come forward by reaching out to the police with any tips that may be relevant.Meanwhile, citywide homicide statistics indicate a decline. To date, Philadelphia has recorded 56 homicides for the year 2025, more than 38% drop from the comparable period in the previous year. The city entered 2024 with its lowest number of homicides in a decade, based on official statistics.

No one wins a trade war: Xi takes swipe at Trump's tariffs during Vietnam visit

world. China’s President Xi Jinping kicked off his Southeast Asia tour with a pointed message: trade wars don’t crown victors — only losers.“There are no winners in a trade war, or a tariff war,” Xi wrote in a joint editorial published on Monday in both Vietnamese and Chinese state media, just as he touched down in Hanoi for a high-profile visit.Our two countries should resolutely safeguard the multilateral trading system, stable global industrial and supply chains, and open and cooperative international environment,” Xi said.With US President Donald Trump keeping 145% tariffs on Chinese goods despite a temporary pause, Xi is using his regional charm offensive to offer a contrast: economic stability over trade sabres. Although Trump stated he respects Xi, he believed the meeting between the Chinese and Vietnamese leaders was an attempt to disadvantage the US in trade matters. Trump told reporters that China and Vietnam were trying "to figure out how do we screw the United States of America."Analysts say the tour is as much about optics as it is about policy. “This visit is about showing China as a responsible superpower — one that behaves very differently from the Trump-led US,” said Nguyen Khac Giang, a fellow at Singapore’s ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute.

XI STEPS UP EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL TIESXi was welcomed at the airport by Vietnam’s President Luong Cuong — a rare honour — with students beating drums and waving both Chinese national and Communist Party flags, a vivid display of pageantry and power.

In Hanoi, Xi met with Communist Party General Secretary To Lam and Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh. “In the face of turmoil and disruption in the current global context, China and Vietnam’s commitment to peaceful development... has brought the world valuable stability and certainty,” Xi said, according to footage reviewed by the Associated Press.

Set An Example": Barack Obama As Harvard Rejects Trump's Demands

Washington.Former US President Barack Obama on Tuesday said Harvard University has "set an example" by rejecting President Donald Trump administration's demands to limit activism on campus. Harvard President Alan Garber on Monday said they would not bend to the government's demands, which included bringing broad government and leadership reforms to America's oldest university and changes to its admissions policies. It also demanded the university audit views of diversity on campus and stop recognizing some student clubs.

"Harvard has set an example for other higher-ed institutions - rejecting an unlawful and ham-handed attempt to stifle academic freedom, while taking concrete steps to make sure all students at Harvard can benefit from an environment of intellectual inquiry, rigorous debate and mutual respect. Let's hope other institutions follow suit," Obama posted on X.On Monday, a Department of Education task force on combating antisemitism accused Harvard of having a "troubling entitlement mindset that is endemic in our nation's most prestigious universities and colleges - that federal investment does not come with the responsibility to uphold civil rights laws.""The disruption of learning that has plagued campuses in recent years is unacceptable. The harassment of Jewish students is intolerable. It is time for elite universities to take the problem seriously and commit to meaningful change if they wish to continue receiving taxpayer support," it said.

Garber, however, in a public letter to the Harvard community, said the university "will not surrender its independence or relinquish its constitutional rights".He said the Harvard administration's demands would allow the federal government "to control the Harvard community" and threaten the school's "values as a private institution devoted to the pursuit, production, and dissemination of knowledge."

"No government - regardless of which party is in power - should dictate what private universities can teach, whom they can admit and hire, and which areas of study and inquiry they can pursue," he wrote.

UN honours Dr BR Ambedkar as NYC declares April 14 in his name

Dr. Ambedkar's birth anniversary was celebrated at the UN in New York, bringing people together to honour his fight for justice and equality. In a heartfelt tribute, NYC officially named April 14 as Ambedkar Day.

world. The birth anniversary of the architect of India's Constitution and the crusader against inequality Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar was celebrated at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York. The Permanent Mission of India to the UN organised the event.

Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale addressed the function. He said, "Today, the permanent mission of India in New York organised this important function. We



are celebrating the birth anniversary of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Not only all over India, but many countries are celebrating."

India's Permanent Representative at the UN, Parvathaneni Harish, spoke about how Dr. Ambedkar played a key role in the freedom struggle and later went on to become the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.\

NYC OBSERVES AMBEDKAR DAY

As a gesture of respect, April 14, 2025, has been declared by New York City as Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar Day. Mayor

Eric Adams announced it on Ambedkar's 134th birth anniversary.

Adams said, "Generations of people from around the world have crossed oceans seeking new possibilities in New York City. Over time, their contributions have transformed into a vibrant history of bolstering our neighbourhoods and enhancing our city's rich cultural tapestry," he said.

The mayor addressed the city's continued efforts to uphold the principles of Dr. Ambedkar stood for. He mentioned how events such as this serve to keep his message of justice and equality alive in the community.

Dr. Ambedkar was born on April 14, 1891, in Mhow, India. He was not just a political leader and social reformer but also an highly educated economist. He received a PhD from Columbia University and a DSc from the London School of Economics. His lifelong fight was for justice, equality, and dignity for everyone.

Radicalised people, can't have nuclear weapons: Trump doubles down on Iran

world. US President Donald Trump asserted that Iran must forgo the "concept of having a nuclear weapon" or risk military strikes on its nuclear facilities. The eccentric US President's fresh warning came days after the US and Iran held talks in Oman over the Middle East nation's nuclear program.

Trump, who has repeatedly threatened military action if no deal is reached on halting Iran's nuclear program, accused Tehran of "intentionally" delaying a nuclear deal with the US, AP reported.Speaking to reporters ahead of a second round of US-Iran talks on April 19 in Rome, Trump said, "Iran has to get rid of the concept of a nuclear weapon. These are radicalised people, and they cannot have a nuclear weapon."When asked if a potential US response could include

strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities if the deal falls through, Trump said, "Of course it does."Earlier this month, the US deployed at least six B-2 stealth bombers to Diego Garcia, a remote



island in the Indian Ocean. The move is being seen by experts as a bid to deter Iran.While Iran denies having a military nuclear programme, several intel reports have revealed that it has

accelerated uranium enrichment to near-weapons-grade levels.

Trump, during his first term as US President, withdrew from the nuclear agreement negotiated in 2015 between the US, Iran and five other global powers.The first round of talks over a fresh nuclear deal took place over the past weekend in Oman. The talks, which were held between Trump's Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff and Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, were called "positive and constructive" by the White House.

On the talks with Iran, Trump said, "I think they're tapping us along." However, he underscored that he expected Iran to make a deal "very quickly".

\$2.3 billion funding freeze: Trump targets Harvard University over defiance

world. The Donald Trump administration in the US on Monday froze approximately \$2.3 billion in federal funding to Harvard University after the Ivy League school refused to comply with a list of White House demands to limit activism on campus and dismantle its diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs.The freeze includes \$2.2 billion in grants and \$60 million in federal contracts, according to the department's task force on combating antisemitism, which said Harvard's resistance reflected “the troubling entitlement mindset that is endemic in our nation's most prestigious universities”.Following the freeze in federal funding to one of the US's elite colleges, Senator Bernie Sanders hit out at Trump and praised Harvard students for standing up against the US President's "authoritarianism".The Department of Education's statement came hours after Harvard President Alan Garber sent a letter to the university community, rejecting Trump's demands, defending the school’s independence and accusing the administration of overreach.“The University will not surrender its independence or relinquish its constitutional rights. No

government — regardless of which party is in power — should dictate what private universities can teach, whom they can admit and hire, and which areas of study and enquiry they can pursue,” Garber wrote.Garber argued the administration’s demands violate the First Amendment and exceed the federal government’s authority under



Title VI, a civil rights law that bars discrimination based on race, colour, or national origin.“These ends will not be achieved by assertions of power, unmoored from the law, to control teaching and learning at Harvard,” he added. “The work of addressing our shortcomings... is ours to define and undertake as a community.”Hours later, th government froze billions in Harvard's federal funding.In a letter to Harvard on Friday, President Trump called for sweeping reforms in the

Harvard's USD 2.3 billion in funding was frozen by Donald Trump just hours after the university rejected a list of government demands, asserting that it would not surrender its independence.

university’s governance and leadership, along with changes to its admissions policies. The letter also urged Harvard to review its diversity initiatives and cease recognition of certain student clubs. The federal government warned that nearly \$9 billion in grants and contracts could be at stake if the university failed to comply.Harvard is one of several elite insitutions facing federal pressure. The Department of Education has also paused funding to the University of Pennsylvania, Brown, and Princeton over similar disagreements. The tactics mirror those that recently led Columbia University to revise its policies after being threatened with a multibillion-dollar funding cut.

Trump's Tariff pause on electronics sparks Global stock surge

world. Stocks rose worldwide Monday after President Donald Trump relaxed some of his tariffs, for now at least, and as stress from within the U.S. bond market seems to be easing.The S&P 500 climbed 0.8%, though trading was still shaky, and it briefly gave back all of its big early gain of 1.8%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 312 points, or 0.8%, and the Nasdaq composite added 0.6%.Apple and other technology companies helped lift Wall Street after Trump said he was exempting smartphones, computers and other electronics from some of his stiff tariffs, which could ultimately more than double prices for U.S. customers of products coming from China. Such an exemption would mean U.S. importers don't have to choose between passing on the higher costs to their customers or taking a hit to their own profits.Apple climbed 2.2%, and Dell Technologies rose 4%.Automakers also rallied after Trump suggested he may announce pauses on tariffs next for the auto industry. General Motors rose 3.5%, and Ford Motor rallied 4.1%.All told, the S&P 500 rose 42.61 points to 5,405.97. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 312.08 to 40,524.79, and the Nasdaq composite climbed 107.03 to 16,831.48.

But such relief may ultimately prove fleeting. Trump’s tariff rollout has been full of fits and starts, and officials in his administration said this most recent exemption on electronics is only temporary.That could keep uncertainty high for companies, which are trying to make long-term plans when conditions seem to change by the day. Such uncertainty sent the U.S. stock market last week to chaotic and historic swings, as investors struggled to catch up with Trump’s moves on tariffs, which could ultimately lead to a recession if not reduced.China’s commerce ministry nevertheless welcomed the pause on electronics tariffs in a Sunday statement as a small step even as it called for the U.S. to completely cancel the rest of its tariffs. China’s leader Xi Jinping on Monday said no one wins in a trade war as he kicked off a diplomatic tour of Southeast Asia, hoping to present China as a force for stability in contrast with Trump’s frenetic moves on tariffs.Elsewhere on Wall Street, Goldman Sachs rose 1.9% after reporting a stronger profit for the latest quarter than expected. It joined other big banks in doing so, such as JPMorgan Chase and Morgan Stanley.

Perhaps more encouragingly for Wall Street, the bond market also showed signs of increasing calm. Treasury yields eased following their sudden and scary rise last week, which seemed to rattle not only investors but also Trump.Treasury yields usually drop when fear is high in the market because U.S. government bonds have historically been seen as some of the world’s safest investments, if not the safest. But last week, yields rose sharply for Treasury bonds in an usual move. The value of the U.S. dollar also fell against other currencies in another move suggesting investors may no longer see the United States as the best place to keep their cash during moments of stress. Trump noted the moves in the bond market, which suggested investors “were getting a little queasy,” after he announced a 90-day pause on many of his tariffs last week.

Mark Zuckerberg testifies in US court during first day of Meta antitrust trial

UPDATED. Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg appeared in a Washington, DC court on Monday to testify in an antitrust trial, placing the tech giant under increased legal scrutiny.The FTC has charged Meta with "anticompetitive conduct," specifically that its acquisition of Instagram and WhatsApp is interpreted as having resulted in unfair domination of the social media marketplace for the company.The FTC alleges that Meta's expansion through acquisitions has stifled competition and harmed consumer choice.The government is forcing Meta to separate from Instagram and WhatsApp, claiming this is needed to return healthy competition to the market. The FTC is also seeking to force Meta to restructure or sell Instagram and WhatsApp.

ZUCKERBERG DEFENDS META'S ACTIONS

Zuckerberg was summoned to testify immediately after the opening remarks.

During his testimony, he justified his decision to acquire Instagram and WhatsApp and dismissed allegations that Meta did not invest in their growth.He said that Facebook had been having trouble keeping up with mobile users, and in 2012, Instagram appeared to be expanding rapidly. Zuckerberg admitted that Facebook was "so far behind" in photo-sharing at the time that buying Instagram was the best option to remain competitive."I think we misunderstood how social engagement online was evolving," Zuckerberg said."People just kept on engaging with more and more stuff that wasn't what their friends were doing," he said.In an email from February 2011, Zuckerberg expressed concern about Instagram's rapid growth, writing, "Instagram seems like it's growing quickly."The FTC pointed to emails to argue that Meta had acquired Instagram and WhatsApp to eliminate potential

competition. In 2012, Zuckerberg further explained in an email that Facebook was "so far behind that we don't even understand how far behind we are" in the photo-sharing market.Zuckerberg will



return to court on Tuesday, continuing his testimony, where he will likely face further questions about Meta's strategies and acquisitions."There's nothing wrong with Meta innovating," said Daniel Matheson, lead attorney for the FTC. "It's what happened next that is a problem."Meta

strongly denies the accusations. Mark Hansen, a lawyer for Meta, pointed out that Meta has never charged users for its services, making it difficult to prove the company has monopoly power."How can the FTC maintain this monopolisation case when (Meta) has never charged users a cent?" Hansen asked.

WHAT'S AT STAKE FOR META AND THE INDUSTRY?

If the FTC wins this case, Meta may be compelled to sell off Instagram and WhatsApp. Instagram alone contributes half of Meta's ad revenue. The result of this trial will redefine a major precedent for future antitrust cases against Big Tech firms.Meta, which in 2024 earned more than \$164 billion in revenue, has fiercely defended its position. In a report, the firm described the FTC's complaint as "weak" and stated that it is under fierce competition from platforms such as TikTok and YouTube.

NEWS BOX

Virat Kohli teaches meditation in hilarious segment with Mr. Nags

New Delhi Royal Challengers Bengaluru talisman Virat Kohli said that his relationship with social media is a little complicated at the moment. Speaking to RCB's Mr. Nags, Kohli revealed that he has significantly reduced his engagement with social media in recent times, but might engage wit the platforms more in the future.Kohli delved into social media, RCB's chances of winning the title in the 18th season of the Indian Premier League, in a hilarious session with Mr. Nags. Kohli tried to teach Nags a little bit of guided meditation as well, but ended up failing. You can watch the video below.In the video, Mr. Nags told Kohli about how the RCB fans had started manifesting a title-run this season because it was the 18th year of the IPL, which matched with Kohli's jersey number. Nags said that fans had started believing that there is a genuine chance that they might win a title this season. Kohli's reaction to the same was hilarious. He asked why did not fans not believe before.

The Royal Challengers Bengaluru have started well this season. In sharp contrast to IPL



2024, they have done incredibly well in the first half of the tournament. RCB have won 4 out of their 4 away games so far, beating Kolkata Knight Riders, Chennai Super Kings, Mumbai Indians, and Rajasthan Royals away from home. However, they have not been able to do the same in their own home at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.Virat Kohli has led the charge for RCB with 248 runs from 6 games, including 3 half-centuries. He has had his opening partner Phil Salt for company, who has himself scored 208 runs already this season. After their win against RP, RCB have flown home where they will take on Punjab Kings in their next game.

Shreyas Iyer's comeback run in Champions Trophy rewarded with ICC award

New Delhi . India batter Shreyas Iyer has been named the International Cricket Council (ICC) Player of the Month for March 2025. He edged out New Zealand's Rachin Ravindra and Jacob Duffy to claim the accolade, following a stellar return to the senior national side during the ICC Champions Trophy 2025.

Shreyas led India's batting charts with 243 runs, playing a pivotal role in the middle order. His contributions were instrumental as India clinched the ICC Champions Trophy title for the first time since 2013 - their first major ODI trophy in 12 years.He became only the second Indian cricketer to win the men's Player of the Month award this year, following Shubman Gill's win in February.Having been dropped from the BCCI's list of centrally contracted players



last year, Shreyas made a resounding comeback during the ODI series against England. After scoring two half-centuries in three matches, he entered the Champions Trophy brimming with confidence.

In a Group A fixture of the tournament, Iyer scored a crucial 79 off 98 balls - an innings laced with four fours and two sixes - helping India post a competitive total of 250 on a tricky pitch against New Zealand. He then contributed 45 off 62 balls during India's successful semi-final chase against Australia, before capping off his tournament with a composed 48 off 62 in the final, once again against New Zealand, to seal victory in the summit clash.Reflecting on his achievements in March, Iyer said: "I'm truly honoured to be named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for March. This recognition is incredibly special, especially in a month when we lifted the ICC Champions Trophy -

Mbappe leads Real Madrid's comeback bid as Arsenal chase UCL glory to salvage their season

MADRID/LONDON. Real Madrid welcome Arsenal to the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday with the quarter-final tie delicately poised.While the Gunners arrive with a 3-0 first-leg lead and dreams of ending their Champions League drought, Madrid are banking on another historic comeback—this time spearheaded by Kylian Mbappe.The match offers contrasting stakes for both sides: for Madrid, a chance to reaffirm their European pedigree; for Arsenal, a season-defining opportunity to claim major silverware amid domestic frustrations.

Can Mbappe deliver on the big night? Mbappe joined Real Madrid in search of Champions League glory, hoping to be on the right side of exactly the kind of magical night they need against Arsenal on Wednesday if they are to progress to the semi-finals.The Gunners lead 3-0 after dismantling the holders in London last week in the quarter-final first leg, leaving Madrid craving the sort of dramatic comeback the 15-time winners are renowned for.Returning from a three-goal defeat would be step further than anything Los Blancos have managed so far, but that is precisely why they tried to lure Mbappe to the club for years.The French superstar's explosive edge



gives Madrid hope of achieving what appears to be borderline impossible."Of course w can," said Mbappe on his way out of the Emirates last Tuesday, heading to the team bus after Arsenal's stunning victory.

Declan Rice struck two sublime free-kicks and Mikel Merino's third helped Mikel Arteta's side put one foot in the final four.Arsenal will be fully aware the job is not yet complete, having seen Mbappe's devastating impact against Premier League champions

Manchester City earlier this season. Mbappe netted a hat-trick agains Pep Guardiola's side in February at the Santiago Bernabeu in the play-off round, helping Madrid eliminate City 6-3 on aggregate.

The striker was sent off for a wild challenge against Alaves in La Liga on Sunday, putting his team-mates under pressure, but can make it up to them with a special performance at the Santiago Bernabeu against Arsenal.Madrid scraped a 1-0 win and

Mbappe only played 38 minutes before his dismissal, so he should be fresh for Wednesday.Mbappe has 33 goals in 49 games across all competitions this season, matching Madrid's all-time top goalscorer Cristiano Ronaldo's tally in his first season at the club.Dominant Arsenal chase elusive UCL gloryArsenal face Real Madrid with one foot already in the Champions League semi-finals but with the added pressure of knowing their entire season hinges on the result at the Bernabeu.Mikel Arteta's men are favourites to reach the last four of Europe's top club competition for only the third time. But all their eggs are now in one basket as they seek to end their trophy drought, with leaders Liverpool almost out of sight in the Premier League.

Arsenal, who have never been crowned European champions, have become used to battling for the English league title -- narrowly losing out to Manchester City in the past two seasons.This year it has been their misfortune to be competing against a Liverpool team that flew out of the blocks in Arne Slot's first season at Anfield.Arsenal have had chances to put the pressure on the runaway leaders but 12 draws in the Premier League, and just two wins in their past seven games, have cost them.

MS Dhoni plays with robot dog, takes it with him after LSG vs CSK

New Delhi . Chennai Super Kings captain MS Dhoni was seen playing with a robot dog in Lucknow's Ekana Stadium on Monday, April 12. The legendary captain, who guided his team to their first win in 6 games, looked invested in IPL's latest technology, which is being used by the broadcasters to serve a better experience to the fans.In a hilarious moment, MS Dhoni was seen stepping up to the robot dog and gently nudging it down from its feet. Since the dog could not get up on its own, the moment had the commentators in splits. After the game, the CSK captain was seen shaking hands with the dog and interacting with it. Dhoni liked the tech so much that he proceeded to carry it with him back to the dressing room.MS Dhoni's love for dogs is well-known. The former Indian cricket captain, often seen as calm and composed on the field, has a softer, affectionate side when he's around animals, especially dogs. At his farmhouse in Ranchi, Dhoni has a variety of pet dogs, including Belgian Malinois, Dutch Shepherds, and even a Labrador. He frequently shares moments



with them on social media, from playing fetch to training sessions.

Dhoni has always emphasised the joy and peace dogs bring into his life. In interviews, he's spoken about how spending time with them helps him unwind and stay grounded. Whether it's celebrating birthdays with his dogs or simply relaxing at home surrounded by them, Dhoni's love for dogs reflects his

humble and caring personality. Off the cricket field, it's clear that he finds solace and happiness in their unconditional love.

On Monday, Dhoni was back to his joyous mood, after CSK returned to their winning ways at the Ekana Stadium. Dhoni's CSK beat Rishabh Pant's LSG by 5 wickets with three balls to spare. Dhoni was named the Player of the Match in the game.

MS Dhoni's love for dogs is well-known. The former Indian cricket captain, often seen as calm and composed on the field, has a softer, affectionate side when he's around animals, especially dogs. At his farmhouse in Ranchi, Dhoni has a variety of pet dogs, including Belgian Malinois, Dutch Shepherds, and even a Labrador. He frequently shares moments

Glenn Maxwell has had his run in IPL 2025: Doull wants PBKS to bench all-rounder vs KKR

New Delhi . Former cricketer Simon Doull feels that woefully out-of-form Glenn Maxwell should be benched from the Punjab Kings line-up in their match against Kolkata Knight Riders. Maxwell has not been able to perform with the bat at all, registering 34 runs from 4 matches. Maxwell's bowling has not been able to create a big enough impact.Speaking on Cricbuzz ahead of Tuesday's game, Doull said that it was high time that Punjab Kings tried out other batters like Azmatullah Omarzai and Josh Inglis in place of the Australian all-rounder. Maxwell has fallen to reckless dismissals this season and has not played any match-winning innings so far."I think Maxwell has had his run. I mean, just the way he's getting out at the moment, it would frustrate me as a coach. That's the disappointing thing, I think, from their point of view. So



game.However, the bigger worry for Punjab is perhaps in their bowling line-up, with Lockie Ferguson being ruled out of the season. Ferguson's injury in his very first over against SunRisers Hyderabad created a

Omarzai's in for him, Inglis in for him, would be something I'd probably look at," Simon Doull said ahead of the

massive dent in PBKS' bowling attack. Despite scoring 245 runs in Hyderabad, they were not able to defend the target.

Punjab have the likes of Kuldeep Sen to replace Lockie and would have to take a brave call about that on Tuesday."Big loss for them in Lockie Ferguson. He bowled two balls in that game. Remember now, that might have made quite a big difference in that run chase. I think, you know, they had to go to Stoinis, they had to go to others, when they would probably have preferred Lockie's pace through the middle. So he is now out, which I'm not sure for how long, so that leaves a bit of a hole in their genuine pace bowling options," Simon Doull said on Lockie Ferguson's injury,"

Doull concluded.

This will be Punjab Kings' third home game this season. They lost their first match at home against Rajasthan, and won their second one against Chennai Super Kings.

thing that happened tonight was MS Dhoni's captaincy. It was phenomenal. He read the situation, he adjusted to the conditions, he bowled his spinners in tandem, exactly like MS Dhoni has done his entire career. He got them on, they rushed through the overs, they changed the pace of the game, they used the surface, they picked up wickets. I just think his experience out there on the field was defining tonight as captain," he added.Dhoni also shone with the bat, scoring a quick-fire 26 off 11 deliveries with the help of four fours and one six. He got involved in an unbeaten 57-run partnership off 28 balls with Dube and took his team over the line. As a result, CSK chased down the target of 167 in 19.3 overs and Dhoni was adjudged Player of the Match.



Zen MS Dhoni teaches CSK how cricket should be played: Bowling coach

MS Dhoni won the player of the match award in LSG vs CSK

Dhoni guided CSK to win a win against Lucknow away from home

Eric Simmons spoke about Dhoni's impact in the team

New Delhi . Chennai Super Kings beat Lucknow Super Giants at the Ekana Stadium on Monday, April 12, to snap out of their 5-match losing streak. Captain MS Dhoni, who has taken over from injured Ruturaj Gaikwad, was named the Player of the Match for his fantastic wicketkeeping and batting



performance. Speaking after the game, bowling coach Eric Simmons explained the impact created by Dhoni and how it has helped the side over the yers.

Simmons has stated that MS Dhoni's 'zen-like' presence has a way of rubbing off on other players in the team. Simmons explained that even when Dhoni is not the captain of the side, he shares his input with the coach, captain and the players, which has always remained valuable to the team.Speaking at the post-match press conference, Simmons quite poetically added that Dhoni teaches CSK about the way of playing cricket and how to understand the game itself."His influence has been there all the time, you know, even when he wasn't captain. His relationship with Rutu is very important. His relationship with Fleming is very important. His relationship with all the players is very important. It's not that he teaches typical technical issues about the game, but it's the calmness that you see out there—that's how he teaches you to play the game. He teaches an understanding of cricket, which is a very

important aspect of the game. So that influence, that calmness that he brings, has always been there, but tonight we saw it once again," Eric Simmons said after the match.CSK captain Ruturaj Gaikwad was ruled out of the tournament after fracturing his arm during the team's match against Rajasthan Royals in Guwahati. Dhoni took over the ailing team, which had only won its opener vs Mumbai Indians in the IPL 2025. Simmons said that Dhoni taking over the side did not feel like a massive change to the

team, but there was a certain calming force that helped CSK win their match at the Ekana Stadium in Lucknow on Monday.

"You know, the fact that he's captain or not captain—he's the same person. It didn't change when he wasn't, in terms of his actual influence on the team. He's obviously a very important part of our setup. As I said, it's a pity that Ruturaj is not there to play and be our captain and our leader, but MS has always been like that. As I said, it doesn't feel like a massive change because he's always been there to give advice, give thoughts, give inputs. And as I said, he's always a calming influence and gives a great level of understanding about how cricket should be played. His wisdom is tremendous," Simmons concluded on the matter.On Monday, Dhoni remained unbeaten on 26 off just 11 balls, seeing CSK through to a win against Rishabh Pant's LSG. Despite the win, CSK are dwelling at the bottom of the league table.



Lakshmi Manchu

Breaks Down As Brother Manoj Surprises Her At Hyderabad Event Amid Family Dispute

Actress and philanthropist Lakshmi Manchu was moved to tears during her annual Teach For Change fundraising fashion show in Hyderabad on Saturday evening. What started as a glamorous night to support education for underprivileged children turned into an emotional family moment when her brother, actor Manoj, made a surprise appearance on the ramp. In a now-viral video from the event, Manoj can be seen quietly walking up behind Lakshmi as she faces the runway. The moment she turns and sees him, she drops to the ground, visibly overwhelmed, and breaks into tears. Manoj embraces his sister, and soon after, his wife Mounika Bhuma Manchu joins them, gently consoling Lakshmi during the unexpected reunion.



Speaking to Telugu 360, Manoj offered a simple explanation for her reaction: "We haven't met in a while. She felt bad that I turned up late." The emotional moment comes against the backdrop of an ongoing and very public family feud. Just days earlier, Manchu Manoj staged a dharna outside his father Mohan Babu's Jalpally residence after allegedly being denied entry. Tensions further escalated when Manoj accused his brother, Vishnu Manchu, of vandalizing his home and stealing his car while he was away in Rajasthan celebrating his daughter's birthday. While the Manchu family dispute—reportedly linked to property issues—has been playing out publicly for months, Lakshmi Manchu has kept a dignified silence and distanced herself from the controversy. Her focus has remained on her philanthropic work, particularly Teach For Change, which she has championed for years to support access to education for underserved communities. On the professional front, Lakshmi was last seen in the Disney+ Hotstar web series Yakshini. She will next appear in the Telugu film Adiparvam.

Hrithik Roshan Ditches Chandu Ke Chacha For Uth Ki Peeth Unchi, Internet Says Their Rohan Raichand Is Back



Karan Johar's 2001 classic Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham gave us many iconic moments—and one of them was Hrithik Roshan's "Chandu Ke Chacha" tongue twister as the lovable Rohan Raichand aka Ladoo. Though his character entered in the second half, Hrithik's charm made a lasting impression. Over two decades later, Hrithik has brought that energy back—but with a twist! During his recent US tour, fans asked him to revisit the famous tongue twister. Hrithik, always ready to entertain, replied, "Chandu Ke Chacha has become old, I have a new one. It's on a camel." He then smoothly delivered the classic "Uth ki peeth unchi" tongue twister, leaving the crowd cheering and clapping in delight. A video of the moment is now going viral, proving once again that Hrithik hasn't lost his fun-loving Rohan spark. Hrithik Roshan's US tour is the talk of the town. Several social media users have criticized the show's management and the actor's stage presence, alleging they did not get their money's worth. The team organising the event has finally reacted to the issue. Chloe E Jones, spokesman for the superstar's USA event team, shunned the allegations. In a statement, the team stated that Hrithik completed all of his commitments, signed autographs, and posed for photos with his supporters. "These claims are baseless and done with malicious intent under the guise of anonymous accounts. We have real people's testimonies all across social media to back our claims, Hrithik has fulfilled all his obligations across the 5 cities we have visited so far. In each location, we have done anywhere between 150 to 200 pictures & meet and greets with Hrithik, who has been gracious to oblige all fans. The audience turnout and feedback has been exceptional, this is the first Rangotsav that witnessed a strength of close to 50K across ticket sales, vendors and sponsors," read the official statement. On the work front, Hrithik will be next seen in War 2, a part of YRF's spy universe, produced by Aditya Chopra. It follows the tremendous success of War (2019), which starred Hrithik and Tiger Shroff. The sequel promises not only high-stakes drama and magnificent action sequences but also the intriguing prospect of two Indian megastars, Hrithik Roshan and Jr NTR, sharing screen space for the first time.

Nisha Rawal Slams Trolls Over Viral Video With Son Kavish, Calls Out Sick Mentality: 'Sharam Aani Chahiye'



Television actress Nisha Rawal has strongly reacted to a recent wave of trolling over a viral video involving her seven-year-old son, Kavish. In the clip, which was captured during a recent event in Mumbai, Kavish is seen innocently placing his hand on his mother's chest while posing for paparazzi. The moment, however, was met with unwarranted and distasteful remarks online—prompting the actress to issue a firm response. Addressing the controversy at a fashion show in Mumbai, Nisha shared her thoughts during an interaction with Instant Bollywood. "Sharam aani chahiye un logon ko jo ek maa-bete ke relationship ko uss nazariye se dekhte hain. Yeh khot unke mann mein hai, so no more comments on that (People who look at a mother-son relationship in such a way should be ashamed. The problem lies in their minds. There's nothing more to say)," she said. The Main Lakshmi Tere Aangan Ki actress' unapologetic stance resonated with many, as she defended her bond with her son and called out the toxic narrative being pushed online. This isn't the first time Nisha Rawal has found herself under the media spotlight. In 2021, she made headlines after accusing her ex-husband, actor Karan Mehra, of domestic violence. She had filed a police complaint, alleging that Karan had physically assaulted her during an argument, resulting in a head injury. The actor was subsequently arrested and released on bail. Nisha also claimed that Karan had been having an extramarital affair with a woman from Delhi during a shoot in Chandigarh. The couple, who got married in 2012, welcomed their son Kavish in 2017. The two have since been locked in a legal and personal battle over their separation. Earlier, during an appearance on Rubina Dilaik's podcast, Nisha opened up about her mental health struggles, revealing that she has been diagnosed with clinical anxiety and bipolar disorder. Her honesty about mental health has earned her praise from fans and advocates alike. On the professional front, Nisha was last seen in the 2022 reality show Lock Upp: Badass Jail, Atyaachari Khel!, hosted by Kangana Ranaut.



Karisma Kapoor's

'No Filter' Post Is All About 'Petals And Positivity'

Karisma Kapoor, known for her iconic roles in movies like Biwi No. 1, Raja Hindustani, Fiza, Dil To Pagal Hai, Zubeidaa and Shakti: The Power, is a social butterfly. From stunning posts about her professional life's updates and travel blogs to breathtaking looks, her social media handles are a reflection of her personality. Recently, she dropped a post exuding nothing but pure positivity with her ivory-white looks for the day. On Instagram, Karisma Kapoor posted a series of pictures, donning a white-hued co-ord set. She was seen posing with a fragrant Champa tree while being lost in the beauty of nature. Coming to her looks, the actress wore an oversized kurta teamed with dhoti pants. Keeping her hair open and makeup absolutely subtle, the actress wrapped up her look. Additionally, a pair of matching coloured sandals finished off her charm. The actress even tucked one of the Champa flowers beside her hair, which made her look prettier. She captioned them as "Petals and Positivity #NoFilter." Soon, Karisma's fans began reacting to her post. Makeup artist Nishi Singh wrote, "Soooooo pretty." One social media user penned, "Your beauty is beyond description." Another mentioned, "Too beautiful Karishma, old is gold."

Someone said, "Bahut Khubsurat post ufffff." This is not the first time when the actress wowed her fans with her scintillating posts, serving pure fashion goals and an ample dose of positivity. On Instagram, she posted a series of photos from her photoshoot at Jaipur's iconic Rambagh Palace. For the day, she picked a blush-pink Anarkali by ace designer Anita Dongre, which featured intricate aaloka embroidery, delicate



threadwork and shimmering sequins. The gorgeous ensemble also had a deep neckline, three-quarter sleeves and a voluminous skirt, donning which she served a perfect blend of sophistication and grandeur. Kapoor teamed it with a sheer dupatta, matching pants, a floral choker and matching earrings. "In the Pink of Positivity," she wrote in the caption. On the professional front, Kapoor last appeared in a Netflix original movie, Murder Mubarak. Next, she will be seen next in a web series titled Brown, with the official premiere date yet to be announced.