



Shruti Haasan Stopped By...

खत्म किए जाएं 8वीं अनुसूची के प्रावधान, सभी भाषाओं को मिले समान अवसर : प्रो. रामदेव

PHOTON NEWS GORAKHPUR : 'यायावरी वाया भोजपुरी महोत्सव' के चौथे संस्करण का भव्य उद्घाटन अतिथि भवन में दीप प्रज्वलन के साथ शनिवार को हुआ। इस दौरान मुख्य अतिथि उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्व शिक्षा राज्य मंत्री सतीश चंद्र द्विवेदी, विशिष्ट अतिथि बनारस हिंदू विश्वविद्यालय के भोजपुरी अध्ययन केंद्र के अध्यक्ष प्रभाकर सिंह, प्रो. रामदेव शुक्ल, ईश्वर बूज फाउंडेशन के मुख्य ट्रस्टी बृजेश्वर मणि त्रिपाठी और ट्रस्टी डॉ. क्षमा त्रिपाठी मंचासीन रहे।

गोरखपुर में 'यायावरी वाया भोजपुरी महोत्सव' के चौथे संस्करण का भव्य उद्घाटन



सम्मेलन के दौरान शिखर सम्मान ग्रहण करते प्रो. डॉ. रामदेव शुक्ल विलक्षण रचनाकारों की कृतियों की समालोचना पुस्तक 'ककहरा'

डॉ. देवेन्द्र नाथ तिवारी द्वारा लिखित और सर्व भाषा ट्रस्ट से प्रकाशित भोजपुरी किताब 'ककहरा' का विमोचन भी किया गया। इस किताब में भोजपुरी के 42 भूले-बिसरे विलक्षण रचनाकारों की कृतियों की समालोचना की गई है।

भोजपुरी के विकास के लिए गद्य लेखन जरूरी : डॉ. प्रभाकर सिंह

विशिष्ट अतिथि बीएचयू के भोजपुरी अध्ययन केंद्र के अध्यक्ष प्रभाकर सिंह ने कहा, 'कविता से अधिक गद्य लेखन जरूरी बा'। भोजपुरी कहानियों पर ग्रामीण परिवेश के अस्वर का उल्लेख करते हुए उन्होंने बीएचयू अध्ययन केंद्र की ओर से राहुल सांकृत्यायन व्याख्यानमाला, भिखारी ठाकुर आदि पर आयोजित कार्यक्रमों के बारे में बताया। उन्होंने कहा कि हमारा केंद्र भी भोजपुरी के लिए कई अभिनव प्रयोग कर रहा है। यायावरी की प्रशंसा करते हुए कहा कि कहानियां कहीं जाती हैं, इसलिए यायावरी वाया भोजपुरी का 'स्टोरी टेलिंग एप' भोजपुरी के इतिहास में अभिनव प्रयोग है।

भोजपुरी को गीत-संगीत तक सीमित न रखा जाए : पूर्व मंत्री

मुख्य अतिथि पूर्व शिक्षा राज्य मंत्री सतीश चंद्र द्विवेदी ने अपने वक्तव्य में कहा कि आज भोजपुरी के इतिहास को समझने की जरूरत है। उन्होंने भोजपुरी किस्सा-कहानी की अद्भुत दुनिया, लोरी आदि के बारे में बताया कि इन सबसे ही भोजपुरी की पहचान होनी चाहिए। उन्होंने भोजपुरी से लोगों को जुड़ने की अपील भी की। कहा कि भोजपुरी को सिर्फ गीत-संगीत तक सीमित न रखा जाए, साहित्य और संस्कृति के क्षेत्र में भी आगे बढ़ाने की जरूरत है।

SARAFI table with gold and silver prices

BRIEF NEWS

प्रख्यात साहित्यकार गंगा प्रसाद अरुण का निधन

JAMSHEDPUR : भोजपुरी एवं हिंदी के प्रख्यात साहित्यकार गंगा प्रसाद अरुण (79) का शुक्रवार को निधन हो गया। वे लंबे समय से बीमार चल रहे थे। प्रसिद्ध कवि, लेखक और संपादक गंगा प्रसाद अरुण लंबे समय से लेखन कार्य से जुड़े रहे। मुख्य रूप से इन्होंने गीत और गजल विधा में रचनाएं की हैं। इनकी अनेक पुस्तकें प्रकाशित हैं। इनमें हजरत हियरा, अंगना महुआ झड़ल, तीन डेगे तिलोक, गजल गवाह बनी, दंड समास (भोजपुरी) तिरती सी परछाया, प्रेम न बाड़े उपजे, मनुवा मन्गीत लिखे (हिंदी) मुख्य हैं।



इन्होंने लकीर व रचनाकार पत्रिका के साथ-साथ अनेक ग्रंथों का संपादन किया था। गंगा प्रसाद अरुण का अनेक साहित्यिक संगठनों से जुड़ाव रहा। साहित्यिक गीतियों और सम्मेलनों में वे निरंतर सक्रिय रहे। अरुण, रामधारी सिंह दिनकर व नामार्जुन सहित कई साहित्यिक हस्तियों के साथ काव्य मंच साझा कर चुके थे।

चार मंजिला भवन में लगी आग, पांच लोगों की मौत

BENGALURU : शनिवार को कर्नाटक की राजधानी बंगलुरु में केआर मार्केट के पास नागरथेटे में एक चार मंजिला व्यावसायिक इमारत में आग लगने से एक ही परिवार के चार सदस्यों सहित पांच लोगों की मौत हो गई। मौके पर पहुंचे दमकल कर्मी आग बुझाने और इमारत में फंसे लोगों को निकालने में जुटे रहे। इस हादसे के मृतकों की पहचान मूल रूप से राजस्थान रहने वाले मदन (38), उनकी पत्नी संगीता (33), मिशेश (8) और विहान (5) के रूप में हुई है। ये सभी एक ही परिवार के सदस्य थे, जबकि सुरेश, जो कि दूसरी मंजिल पर काम करते थे, उनकी भी इस त्रासदी में मौत हो गई है। पुलिस के अनुसार इमारत के भूतल पर प्लास्टिक भेंट के गोदाम में लगी आग तेजी से फैल गई। देखते ही देखते आग इमारत की तीसरी मंजिल तक पहुंच गई और वहां रहने वाले राजस्थान निवासी मदन कुमार, उनकी पत्नी संगीता और बच्चे विहान व निवेश आग में फंस गए।

सभी सुविधाओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए सुरक्षा के किए गए थे कड़े इंतजाम

दिशोम गुरु के श्राद्धभोज में पहुंचीं नामी-गिरामी हस्तियां

PHOTON NEWS RAMGARH : शनिवार को झारखंड के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री और दिवंगत दिशोम गुरु शिवू सोरेन का श्राद्धभोज उनके पैतृक गांव रामगढ़ जिले के नेमरा में संपन्न हुआ। इसमें बड़ी संख्या में लोग पहुंचे। दिवंगत शिवू सोरेन के श्राद्ध भोज में राजनीतिक, सामाजिक और धार्मिक क्षेत्रों के साथ-साथ सरकारी अधिकारी, आम लोग सहित कई प्रमुख हस्तियां उन्हें श्रद्धांजलि देने के लिए नेमरा पहुंचीं। इसको लेकर पूरे इलाके में सुरक्षा के कड़े इंतजाम किए गए। देश के रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह, तेलंगाना के मुख्यमंत्री रेवेंत रेड्डी और केंद्रीय रक्षा राज्य मंत्री संजय सेट ने भी नेमरा पहुंचकर शिवू सोरेन को श्रद्धांजलि दी। योग गुरु बाबा रामदेव भी इस दुख की घड़ी में शिवू सोरेन को

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह, तेलंगाना के सीएम रेवेंत रेड्डी और बाबा रामदेव ने दी श्रद्धांजलि

सिर्फ आदिवासी ही नहीं सभी के अभिभावक थे गुरुजी : राजनाथ सिंह

केंद्रीय रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने कहा कि दिशोम गुरु शिवू सोरेन से मेरी कई मुलाकातें हुईं। उनकी सहजता, सरलता एवं व्यक्तिगत मुझे प्रभावित करती थी। गुरुजी सिर्फ आदिवासी ही नहीं, बल्कि अन्य समाज के भी अभिभावक के रूप में जाने जाते थे। मैं अपनी ओर से उन्हें विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ। केंद्रीय रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने दिशोम गुरु शिवू सोरेन की तस्वीर पर पुष्प अर्पित कर उन्हें भावपूर्ण श्रद्धांजलि दी और मुख्यमंत्री एवं उनके परिवारिक सदस्यों से मुलाकात कर अपनी गहरी संवेदनाएं व्यक्त की।



हेमंत ने दशकर्म की परंपरा का किया निर्वहन, मुंडवाया सिर

राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन ने अपने पिता को मुखार्पण देने के बाद उनकी आत्मा की शांति के लिए लगातार प्रयाग बुरु से प्रार्थना की। इस दौरान उन्होंने उल्लेखनीय है कि शिवू सोरेन के दशकर्म संस्कार पर नेमरा में आम लोगों के लिए श्राद्ध भोज का आयोजन किया गया।

बड़े स्तर पर की गई थी पार्किंग की व्यवस्था

श्राद्धभोज में शामिल होने वालों की सुविधा के लिए तीन बड़े भवन पडाल बनाए गए, जहां पारंपरिक श्राद्ध भोजन और प्रसाद परोसा गया। इसके अलावा, 300 से अधिक ई-रिशा निर्धारित पार्किंग क्षेत्रों और कार्यक्रम स्थल के बीच चलाए गए। पार्किंग की व्यवस्था भी बड़े स्तर पर की गई। 6 बड़े पार्किंग स्थल बनाए गए। लुइयाटाड में लगभग 3000 वाहनों, नेमरा में वीवीआईपी के लिए 50 वाहनों, और अन्य स्थानों पर कुल मिलाकर 5000 से अधिक वाहनों के लिए पार्किंग की सुविधा दी गई। बिजली की कोई समस्या न हो, इसके लिए 200 से ज्यादा जनरेटर लगाए गए थे।

कुमार चौबे ने भी अपनी उपस्थिति दर्ज कराई।



फोटो : समीर

स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर पीएम ने समृद्ध भारत के साथ आत्मनिर्भरता पर दिया बल



NEW DELHI @ PTI :

शुक्रवार को 79वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर लाल किले को प्राचीर से प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने राष्ट्र के नाम अपने संबोधन में समृद्ध भारत के लिए आत्मनिर्भरता पर जोर देते हुए एकजुट प्रयास का आह्वान किया। अपने संबोधन में उन्होंने दीपावली पर नेक्स्ट जेनरेशन जीएसटी रिफॉर्म, जनसांख्यिकी की बदलाव से निपटने के लिए डेमोग्राफिक मिशन, रक्षा क्षेत्र से जुड़े सुरक्षा चक्र मिशन जैसी बड़ी घोषणाएं कीं। प्रधानमंत्री ने स्पष्ट संदेश दिया कि भारत अपनी शक्तों पर भविष्य गढ़ेगा, अपना भाग्य स्वयं तय करेगा और 2047 तक विकसित राष्ट्र बनेगा। प्रधानमंत्री ने घोषणा की कि सरकार दीपावली के अवसर पर नेक्स्ट जेनरेशन जीएसटी रिफॉर्म लागू करेगी। एक उच्चस्तरीय समिति द्वारा समीक्षा के बाद तय किए गए इन सुधारों के तहत सामान्य नागरिक से जुड़े करों में उल्लेखनीय कमी की जाएगी। इससे रोजमर्रा की वस्तुएं सस्ती होंगी और एमएसएमई क्षेत्र को लाभ मिलेगा।

देश में निर्मित वस्तुओं को अपनाने का आह्वान

प्रधानमंत्री ने आत्मनिर्भरता, तकनीकी शक्ति एवं समावेशी विकास का आह्वान किया। उन्होंने कहा कि 21वीं सदी तकनीकप्रधान है और जो देश तकनीक में आगे है, वे ही सफलता प्राप्त कर रहे हैं। इसी दिशा में भारत सेमीकंडक्टर क्षेत्र में मिशन मोड में कार्य कर रहा है और वर्ष के अंत तक मेड इन इंडिया चिप बाजार में उपलब्ध होगी। ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में भी भारत सौर, हाइड्रोजन और परमाणु स्रोतों में आत्मनिर्भर बनने के प्रयास कर रहा है। प्रधानमंत्री ने नेशनल डीप वॉटर एक्सप्लोरेशन मिशन और नेशनल क्रिटिकल मिशन की घोषणा की, जिनका उद्देश्य समुद्र में तेल-गैस भंडार और 1200 से अधिक स्थलों पर महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों की खोज है। प्रधानमंत्री ने वोकल फॉर लोकल पहल के तहत नागरिकों और दुकानदारों से भारत में निर्मित वस्तुओं को अपनाने का आग्रह किया। उन्होंने कहा कि स्वदेशी गैर और ताकत से प्रेरित होना चाहिए, न कि मजबूती से। इसके लिए दुकानों के बाहर स्वदेशी बोर्ड लगाने जैसी पहल करने का सुझाव दिया, जिससे आत्मनिर्भरता को बढ़ावा, उद्यमिता को समर्थन और भारत की आर्थिक-औद्योगिक नींव मजबूत हो।

आत्मनिर्भर भारत निजी कंपनियों को भी यूरेनियम खनन की मिलेगी इजाजत

परमाणु ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में अब तेज होगी विकास की रफ्तार

PHOTON NEWS @ RESEARCH DESK : प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी अपने तीसरे कार्यकाल में पहले के दो कार्यकालों के दौरान शेष रह गए महत्वपूर्ण राष्ट्रहित के कार्यों पर फोकस कर रहे हैं। भारत ने ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में वैश्विक दृष्टि से पिछले चंद वर्षों में महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धियां हासिल की हैं। प्रदूषण से मुक्ति के लिए ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में ग्रीन एनर्जी पर विशेष जोर दिया जा रहा है और इसके लिए कारगर रणनीति अपनाई जा रही है। इसी कड़ी में परमाणु ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में देश को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने का बड़ा फैसला केंद्र सरकार ने किया है। मोदी सरकार ने परमाणु ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर भारत की दिशा में एक बड़े बदलाव का फैसला किया है। जानकारी के अनुसार, अब निजी भारतीय कंपनियों को यूरेनियम के खनन की इजाजत दी जाएगी। भविष्य में आयात और प्रसंस्करण की अनुमति मिलेगी। यह कदम प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के 2047 तक परमाणु ऊर्जा उत्पादन क्षमता को 12 गुना बढ़ाने के महत्वाकांक्षी लक्ष्य का हिस्सा है। यह कदम भारत के परमाणु कार्यक्रम को एक नई दिशा देगा और देश की ऊर्जा जरूरतों को पूरा करने में एक मील का पत्थर साबित होगा।

भविष्य में प्राइवेट सेक्टर को आयात और प्रसंस्करण की भी दी जाएगी अनुमति

वर्तमान नीति से देश के परमाणु कार्यक्रम में अरबों डॉलर के निवेश की जगो नई उम्मीद

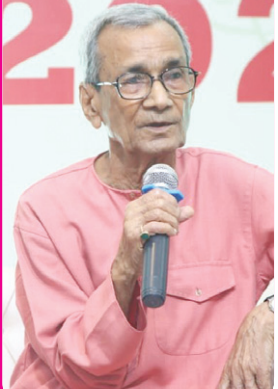
Infographic showing nuclear power growth from 2047 to 2050, including capacity and investment figures.

शुक्रवार की रात को नई दिल्ली स्थित अपोलो अस्पताल में ली थी आखिरी सांस नहीं रहे शिक्षा मंत्री रामदास सोरेन, राजकीय सम्मान के साथ किया गया अंतिम संस्कार

PHOTON NEWS JSR : राज्य के शिक्षा मंत्री रामदास सोरेन का निधन शुक्रवार की रात को नई दिल्ली स्थित अपोलो अस्पताल में हो गया था। उनका पार्थिव शरीर रांची स्थित विधानसभा होते हुए शनिवार शाम को जमशेदपुर के घोड़ाबांधा स्थित आवास पहुंचा। यहां उनके अंतिम दर्शन करने के लिए लोगों की भीड़ उमड़ पड़ी। शिक्षा मंत्री को अंतिम विदाई देने के लिए झामुमो के वरिष्ठ नेता और कार्यकर्ता बड़ी संख्या में जुटे। इसके अलावा, पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री चम्पाई सोरेन, पूर्व सांसद, मंत्री और विधायक भी पहुंचे। इसके अलावा, पुलिस और प्रशासनिक अधिकारियों ने भी शिक्षा मंत्री को

रांची से जमशेदपुर के घोड़ाबांधा स्थित आवास पहुंचा पार्थिव शरीर

Portrait of Ramadas Soren with text about his death and funeral arrangements.



यायावरी भोजपुरी महोत्सव 2025 गोरखपुर में सजल भोजपुरी कऽ दुनिया

डिजिटल युग से आधी आबादी तक भईल बात



गोरखपुर के गोकुल अतिथि भवन में आयोजित यायावरी भोजपुरी महोत्सव कई मायनों में भोजपुरी जगत के लिए मील का पत्थर बन गया। इसने साहित्य से लेकर बोलचाल, रहन-सहन, परिवार व समाज तक में भोजपुरिया संस्कृति को आत्मसात करने का मार्गदर्शन किया। वक्ताओं ने अपने उद्बोधन से बताया कि भोजपुरी और भोजपुरिया संस्कृति के संवर्द्धन-संरक्षण के लिए क्या-क्या करने की आवश्यकता है। इसमें भोजपुरी जगत के लोकप्रिय रचनाकारों की उपस्थिति ने भी इस आयोजन को यादगार बना दिया।

आधी दुनिया में आधुनिकता

गोरखपुर के गोकुल अतिथि भवन में आयोजित यायावरी भोजपुरी महोत्सव के तृतीय सत्र में 'भोजपुरी समाज के आधी दुनिया में आधुनिकता' विषय पर परिचर्चा की गई। इस सत्र के पैनलिस्ट में गंगोत्री देवी महिला पीजी कॉलेज की प्रिंसिपल पुनम शुक्ला, चर्चित कवयित्री आकृति विज्ञ अर्पण, गायकोर्नोलॉजिस्ट सविता तिवारी शामिल रही। वहीं डॉ. क्षमा त्रिपाठी मॉडरेटर की भूमिका में रही। पुनम शुक्ला ने अपने वक्तव्य के दौरान कहा कि हमें अपने बोलचाल में भोजपुरी को शामिल करने की जरूरत है। इसके लिए बच्चों को प्रेरित करने की जरूरत है। उन्होंने आधी आबादी के संदर्भ में कहा कि महिला कमजोर नहीं है। वह सभी संस्कारों से परिपूर्ण है। नारी शाश्वत है। आकृति विज्ञ अर्पण ने आधी आबादी और भोजपुरी को लेकर कहा कि उनका भोजपुरी

की दुनिया में सफर बेहद संघर्षपूर्ण रहा है। लोग उन्हें हीन भावना से देखते रहे। लेकिन, लोकल फॉर गोकुल की तरह ही हमें भोजपुरी को आगे बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है। ईमानदारी से काम किया जाए तो भोजपुरी के क्षेत्र में महिला काफी सफलता हासिल कर सकती है। सविता तिवारी ने कहा कि हम सबकी भाषा भोजपुरी है। आजकल लोग

संभावनाओं पर अपने विचार साझा किए। मानवेंद्र त्रिपाठी ने कहा कि भिखारी ठाकुर की कहानियां आज भी उतनी ही प्रासंगिक हैं, जितना उनके समय में थीं। उनके नाटक हमेशा से दर्शकों को आकर्षित करते रहे हैं। रंगमंच को साधना और तपस्या का कार्य बताते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि भोजपुरी को आगे बढ़ाने का

एकमात्र रास्ता मौलिकता है। वहीं, श्रीनारायण पांडेय ने कहा कि नई पीढ़ी भोजपुरी से धीरे-धीरे अछूती होती जा रही है। उन्होंने माना कि भोजपुरी के लिए पेशेवर मंच तैयार करना कठिन है, लेकिन प्रशिक्षण और आधुनिकता के समायोजन से इसे मजबूत बनाया जा सकता है। कार्यक्रम में वक्ता सुनील जी ने

भोजपुरी पत्रिका की डगर कठिन, परन्तु समाधान भी है

यायावरी भोजपुरी महोत्सव के दौरान आयोजित एक विशेष सत्र में 'भोजपुरी लघु पत्रिका के बड़हन दुनिया' विषय पर चर्चा हुई। वक्ताओं ने वर्तमान परिस्थितियों में भोजपुरी पत्रिकाओं के सामने आ रही चुनौतियों और उनके समाधान पर अपने विचार रखे। राधेश्या पति त्रिपाठी ने कहा कि जो भी अखबार या पत्रिका छपी जा रही है, उसमें कंटेंट तैयार करते समय पाठकों की रुचि और समाज की मौजूदा समस्याओं को ध्यान में रखना जरूरी है। उन्होंने जोर दिया कि यदि पत्रिका में वैज्ञानिक लेख, बच्चों की समस्याओं और सामयिक विषयों पर लिखा जाएगा तो पाठकों की संख्या निश्चित रूप से बढ़ेगी। रवि प्रताप सुरज ने उदाहरण देते हुए कहा कि भोजपुरी पत्रिकाओं ने पहले भी निष्पक्षता दिखाई है। उन्होंने बताया कि एक पत्रिका में मोरारजी देसाई और आरएसएस दोनों पर खबरें प्रकाशित हुई थीं, जिससे उसकी निष्पक्षता स्पष्ट होती है। हालांकि उन्होंने माना कि पत्रिका निकालना महंगा है, लेकिन नई पीढ़ी मेहनत और लगन से

कहा कि भोजपुरी लगातार आगे बढ़ रही है, लेकिन इसे अधीलता से मुक्त रखते हुए मौलिक और सार्थक सामग्री पर जोर देना होगा। उन्होंने सुझाव दिया कि पुरानी कहानियों को रूपांतरित कर नाटकों में प्रस्तुत किया जाए और ऐसे कार्य करने वाले कलाकारों को लगातार प्रोत्साहित किया जाना चाहिए।

डिजिटल दुनिया में क्रांति की उम्मीद

यायावरी वाया भोजपुरी महोत्सव के आखिरी साहित्यिक सत्र में 'भोजपुरी की डिजिटल दुनिया' विषय पर सारगर्भित चर्चा हुई। इस परिचर्चा में प्रसिद्ध आरजे वोखा, बतरस पॉडकास्ट के संस्थापक प्रो. श्रीश पाठक, वायरल कलाकार केम उज्जवल श्रीवास्तव, डिजिटल क्रिएटर रिक्की मिश्रा और मॉडरेटर डॉ. मुन्ना पांडेय मंचासीन रहे। आरजे वोखा ने अपने वक्तव्य में कहा कि वे पिछले 9 वर्षों से रेडियो जगत से जुड़े हैं और भोजपुरी के आरजे के रूप में पहचान बनाई है। उन्होंने बताया कि श्रोताओं को जोड़ने के लिए उन्हें लगातार नए-नए प्रयोग करने पड़ते हैं। गानों को रोचक बनाने के लिए वे इंगेजिंग तरीकों का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। प्रोफेसर श्रीश पाठक ने कहा कि आज की डिजिटल पीढ़ी पॉडकास्ट को गानों की अपेक्षा ज्यादा पसंद कर रही है। उन्होंने बताया कि 'बतरस' पॉडकास्ट की शुरुआत उन्होंने इसलिए की, ताकि सार्थक और सांस्कृतिक बातचीत को मंच मिल सके। उनका मानना है कि भोजपुरी की पहचान को डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्मों के जरिए वैश्विक स्तर तक पहुंचाना जरूरी है। डिजिटल क्रिएटर रिक्की मिश्रा के बारे में मॉडरेटर डॉ. मुन्ना पांडेय ने बताया कि शुरुआती दिनों में उनके पिता ने उनके करियर को लेकर सवाल उठाए थे, लेकिन उनकी मां हमेशा दाल बनकर खड़ी



रही। रिक्की ने कहा कि उन्होंने '2AM THOUGHT' नाम से भोजपुरी कंटेंट बनाना शुरू किया, जिसका पहला एपिसोड ही 5 मिलियन व्यूज तक पहुंच गया। उन्होंने भिखारी ठाकुर स्कूल ऑफ़ ड्रामा से शिक्षा प्राप्त की और बताया कि आज उनकी मां को उन पर गर्व है। वायरल कलाकार उज्जवल श्रीवास्तव ने कहा कि भोजपुरी में अच्छा काम करने पर लोग इसे अपनी अभिमान से जोड़ते हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि हिंदी में वर्षों तक काम करने के बाद उन्हें महसूस हुआ कि जब तक कंटेंट में जुड़ाव नहीं होगा, उस स्वीकार्यता नहीं मिलेगी। आज उनके साथ लगभग 4 करोड़ लोग भोजपुरी कंटेंट के जरिए जुड़े हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि भोजपुरी की गरिमा को मंच से लेकर हर प्लेटफॉर्म तक ले जाना समय की मांग है।

वही काव्य की फुहार
महोत्सव के अंत में काव्य सत्र हुआ, जिसमें समाज के लगभग हर पहलू से जुड़ी रचनाएं पढ़ी गईं। इसमें कुमार बृजेंद्र, बादशाह प्रेमी, सुनील कुमार तग, मुन्ना मवाली, चेतना पांडेय आदि ने खूब तालियां बटोरीं, जबकि काव्य गोष्ठी की अध्यक्षता सुभाष यादव ने की।



BRIEF NEWS

लायंस क्लब ने मरीजों और परिजनों में किया भोजन वितरण

RANCHI : लायंस क्लब ऑफ रांची ग्लोबल की ओर से शनिवार को सदर अस्पताल में मरीजों और उनके परिजनों के बीच भोजन वितरण किया गया। यह सेवा कार्य लगातार 52वें सप्ताह में प्रवेश कर गई। कार्यक्रम में क्लब सदस्यों ने मरीजों को स्वादिष्ट खिचड़ी परोसी। इस अवसर पर क्लब के सचिव संतोष अग्रवाल और कोषाध्यक्ष अलतमश आलम ने कहा कि हमारा उद्देश्य सिर्फ भोजन कराना नहीं, बल्कि यह एहसास दिलाना है कि समाज उनके साथ खड़ा है। क्लब की प्रवक्ता मॉनिका गोयनका ने बताया कि समाज सेवा ही सबसे बड़ा धर्म है और इसी सोच के साथ यह प्रकल्प आगे बढ़ रहा है।

पहले गुरुजी और अब मंत्री रामदास का जाना अभूतपूर्व क्षति : शिल्पी

RANCHI : झारखंड के शिक्षा मंत्री रामदास सोरेन के निधन पर राज्य की कृषि, पशुपालन एवं सहकारिता मंत्री शिल्पी नेहा तिकी ने गहरा शोक व्यक्त किया है। झारखंड विधानसभा परिसर में शनिवार को मंत्री मंत्री शिल्पी नेहा तिकी ने दिवंगत मंत्री के पार्थिव शरीर पर श्रद्धा सुमन अर्पित किया। इस दौरान उन्होंने कहा कि पहले दिशोम गुरु शिवू सोरेन का हम सबको छोड़कर जाना और अब रामदास सोरेन का निधन झारखंड की राजनीति और समाज के लिए दुखद घटना है। एक ही माह के भीतर राज्य ने अपने दो कद्दवर नेता खो दिया है, यह पूरे राज्य के लिए अपूरणीय क्षति है।

देवकी नंदन भगवान का दिव्यरूप में मना प्रकट दिवस



RANCHI : श्रीलक्ष्मी वैकटेश्वर मंदिर में शनिवार को परिपूर्णतम परमात्मा श्रीकृष्णचंद्र के प्रकट दिवस (जन्माष्टमी) पर कई आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर दिव्य सुवासित पुष्पों और पतों से सजाये हुये झुला पर सप्तगिरिशंकर भगवान श्रीवैकटेश्वर अनेक आभूषणों से अलंकृत हो बालमुकुन्द श्रीकृष्णचंद्र के स्वरूप में, श्रीश्रीदेवीलक्ष्मी -स्किमणीजी के रूप में और श्रीभूमिदेवी - राधिकाजी के रूप में मनोहर दर्शन प्राप्त हुआ। इसके पूर्व आयोजित अनुष्ठान की प्रक्रिया ब्रह्म मुहूर्त में ब्रह्म परमात्मा पञ्चावती वल्लभ श्रीश्रीनिवास सहित श्रीश्रीदेवी, श्रीभूमिदेवी, श्रीचक्रराज सुदर्शन सहित सभी प्रतिष्ठापित विग्रहों का महाभिषेक हुआ। इसके बाद भावना के विग्रहों का साज सजावट करके नक्षत्र, कुंभ और कपूर से महाआरती की गयी। खीर, आलू पकोड़ा, फल और मेवा का बालभोग निवेदन हुआ। इसके बाद श्रुति, उपनिषद और देशिक स्तोत्राणि और श्लोकों से स्तुति की गयी। बाद में भजन- संकीर्तन और श्रीविष्णु सहस्रनाम का सामूहिक पाठ हुआ।

79वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर राज्यपाल संतोष गंगवार ने मोरहाबादी मैदान में किया ध्वजारोहण, बोले-

सभी क्षेत्रों में तेज गति से विकास कर रहा झारखंड, अवसर की कमी नहीं

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : 79वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर शुक्रवार को झारखंड के राज्यपाल संतोष कुमार गंगवार ने राजधानी रांची के मोरहाबादी मैदान में ध्वजारोहण किया और परेड की सलामी ली। अपने उद्घोषण में उन्होंने राज्य सरकार की ओर संचालित योजनाओं के बारे में विस्तार से बताया। राज्यपाल संतोष कुमार गंगवार ने अपने उद्घोषण में कहा कि आज देश और दुनिया झारखंड की ओर देख रही है। सभी क्षेत्रों में राज्य तेज गति से विकास कर रहा है। यहां अवसरों की कोई कमी नहीं है। चाहे आधारभूत संरचना में निवेश हो, ऊर्जा क्षेत्र को सशक्त बनाने की बात हो, उद्योगों में नवाचार की पहल हो, शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में उन्नति हो, कृषि में नए सुधारों को लागू करने की बात हो या खेल के क्षेत्र की बात हो, हर क्षेत्र में आज नए अवसर हम सबके सामने हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि झारखंड आज देश के साथ प्रगति

- राज्य सरकार की ओर से संचालित योजनाओं के बारे में गवर्नर ने विस्तार से बताया
- आर्थिक वृद्धि दर और विकास के अनेक सूचकांकों में हो रहा उत्तरोत्तर सुधार
- यहां के विकास में युवाओं, किसानों, मातृशक्ति और उद्यमियों की बड़ी भूमिका



तिरंगे को सलामी देते राज्यपाल संतोष गंगवार व अन्य • फोटोन न्यूज

2.6 करोड़ लाभुकों को मुफ्त चावल-गेहूं

राज्यपाल ने कहा कि राज्य में किसी भी नागरिक की मृत्यु भूख से न हो, इसके लिए सरकार सचेत है। राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम के तहत राज्य के 2.6 करोड़ लाभुकों को मुफ्त चावल एवं गेहूं उपलब्ध कराया जा रहा है। इसके अतिरिक्त, पीपीटीजी डाकिया योजना के माध्यम से राज्य के लगभग 75 हजार लाभुक परिवारों को 35 किलोग्राम चावल प्रति परिवार प्रति माह उनके घर तक बंद पैकेट में, नि-शुल्क पहुंचाया जा रहा है।

नक्सलवाद के खिलाफ उठाए जा रहे प्रभावी कदम

राज्यपाल ने कहा कि नक्सलवाद एवं आतंकी गतिविधियों को रोकने और उनके नेटवर्क को ध्वस्त करने के लिए प्रभावी कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। इन प्रयासों के फलस्वरूप अब तक 197 नक्सली गिरफ्तार हुए, 17 नक्सली मारे गए और 10 नक्सलियों ने आत्मसमर्पण किया है। उन्होंने कहा कि राज्य में कानून-व्यवस्था को दुरुस्त बनाए रखने के साथ-साथ हमारी सरकार हर नागरिक के वैधानिक अधिकारों के संरक्षण के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। भू-माफिया, अवैध वन कटाई, अवैध खनिज उत्खनन, बिजली चोरी और संगठित अपराध के विरुद्ध कठोर कार्रवाई जारी है और भविष्य में भी जारी रहेगी। राज्यपाल ने कहा कि मादक पदार्थों की रोकथाम और प्रभावी नियंत्रण के लिए राज्य के सरकारी कार्यालयों एवं शिक्षण संस्थानों में 10 जून से 26 जून 2025 तक व्यापक राज्यव्यापी जागरूकता अभियान चलाया गया। राज्य के विभिन्न जिलों में अफीम की अवैध खेती पर कड़ा प्रहार करते हुए हमारी सरकार ने हजारों एकड़ भूमि पर लगाई गई इन फसलों को नष्ट किया है।

किसानों के हित में किए जा रहे कार्य

गवर्नर ने कहा कि अर्थव्यवस्था को आकार देने में किसानों की भूमिका अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है। किसान केवल अन्नदाता ही नहीं, बल्कि हमारे जीवनदाता भी हैं। उनकी उपज को उचित मूल्य दिलाने और उनकी आजीविका सुधारने के लिए हमारी सरकार बहुआयामी प्रयास कर रही है। किसान समृद्धि योजना के अंतर्गत 90 प्रतिशत अनुदान पर ऋण ऊर्जा आधारित एमएसई वितरित किए जा रहे हैं। कृषि ऋण माफ़ी योजना के तहत राज्य के लगभग पांच लाख किसानों को 2300 करोड़ रुपये का ऋण माफ़ कर उन्हें आर्थिक राहत प्रदान की गई है। प्रधानमंत्री किसान समान निधि योजना के तहत हर पांच किसान को प्रति वर्ष सीधे आर्थिक सहायता प्रदान की जा रही है। साथ ही, किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड योजना के माध्यम से किसानों को समय पर सस्ती ढररे पर ऋण उपलब्ध कराया जा रहा है। कृषि को सशक्त बनाने के लिए सिवाई सुविधाओं का लगातार विस्तार किया जा रहा है।

नेतरहाट की तर्ज पर खोले जाएंगे तीन नए विद्यालय

राज्यपाल ने कहा कि राज्य के प्रतिष्ठित नेतरहाट आवासीय विद्यालय की तर्ज पर पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, बेंकौरा और दुमका में नए आवासीय विद्यालय स्थापित करने की स्वीकृति दी गई है। उक्त विद्यालयों की सफलता और विद्यार्थियों की आकांक्षाओं को देखते हुए 100 नए उक्त विद्यालय प्रारंभ करने की दिशा में कार्य किया जा रहा है। अनुसूचित जनजाति, अनुसूचित जाति, पिछड़ा वर्ग एवं अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के विद्यार्थियों में ग्रैंडअउट (किसी कोर्स, स्कूल, या प्रतियोगिता से शीर्ष में ही अलग हो जाना या छेड़ देना) की समस्या रोकने के लिए साइकिल वितरण योजना संचालित की जा रही है।

के पथ पर अग्रसर है। आर्थिक वृद्धि दर और विकास के अनेक महत्वपूर्ण सूचकांकों में सुधार करते हुए झारखंड ने उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धियां हासिल की है। इस प्रगति के सफर में यहां के युवाओं, किसानों, मातृशक्ति और उद्यमियों की बड़ी भूमिका रही है। किसी भी राज्य के समग्र विकास के लिए बेहतर कानून-व्यवस्था अनिवार्य है। राज्यपाल ने कहा कि प्रदेश में भाईचारा, शांति और सांप्रदायिक

सौहार्द को बनाए रखना तथा कानून-व्यवस्था को मजबूत करना हमारी सरकार की सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता रही है। समाज के सहयोग से सरकार इस उद्देश्य में सफल रही है।

वंचितों और पिछड़ों के अधिकारों के लिए संघर्षरत रहे रामदास सोरेन : कमलेश

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : झारखंड के शिक्षा मंत्री रामदास सोरेन के आकस्मिक निधन से पूरे प्रदेश में शोक की लहर है। अभी दिशोम गुरु शिवू सोरेन के निधन के दुःख से राज्य उबर भी नहीं पाया था कि एक और अपूरणीय क्षति ने प्रदेश को स्तब्ध कर दिया है। कांग्रेस के प्रदेश अध्यक्ष केशव महतो कमलेश ने शनिवार को ये बातें कही। रांची स्थित झारखंड विधानसभा पहुंचकर केशव महतो कमलेश ने दिवंगत रामदास सोरेन को भावपूर्ण श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की और कहा कि हमने एक मुद्दाभी, सरल स्वभाव और समाज के प्रति सदैव समर्पित रहने वाले जननेता को खो दिया है। शिक्षा क्षेत्र को



श्रद्धांजलि देते केशव महतो कमलेश व अन्य • फोटोन न्यूज

मजबूत बनाने और जनजातीय समाज की आवाज बुलंद रखने में उनका योगदान अविस्मरणीय रहेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि स्वर्गीय रामदास सोरेन हमेशा वंचितों और पिछड़ों के हक और अधिकारों के लिए संघर्षरत रहे। उनका सम्पूर्ण राजनीतिक जीवन जनसेवा को समर्पित रहा। उनके निधन से झारखंड राज्य को दोहरी अपूरणीय क्षति हुई है। एक समाजसेवी और प्रभावी जननेता के रूप में उनकी कमी को भर पाना कठिन होगा।

झारखंड आंदोलन के सच्चे योद्धा थे रामदास सोरेन : सुदेश महतो

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : आजसू पार्टी के केंद्रीय अध्यक्ष सुदेश महतो ने शिक्षा मंत्री रामदास सोरेन के निधन पर गहरा दुःख व्यक्त किया है। उन्होंने शनिवार को प्रेस विज्ञापित जारी कर कहा कि रामदास सोरेन ने मजदूरों और विस्थापितों की आवाज बनकर सदैव अग्रिम पंक्ति में संघर्षरत रहे। उन्होंने झारखंड आंदोलन में एक सच्चे योद्धा की भूमिका निभाई। महतो ने कहा कि रामदास सोरेन ने महत्वाकांक्षा से दूर रहकर जनसेवा को अपना लक्ष्य बनाया था। पार्टी के केंद्रीय उपाध्यक्ष प्रवीण प्रभाकर ने कहा है कि रामदास सोरेन का जाना उस पीढ़ी का एक पाया खिसक जाना है, जिसने झारखंडी जनता के हक और



सम्मान की लड़ाई को मूलमंत्र बनाया था। वह मंत्री पद की दौड़ में नहीं बल्कि जनकल्याण में तत्पर दिखते थे। पार्टी के मुख्य प्रवक्ता डॉ देवशरण भगत ने कहा कि शिक्षा मंत्री रामदास सोरेन के चले जाने पर आदिवासी जनता के लिए आवाज उठाने वाला चला गया। वे जीवन भर विस्थापितों और मजदूरों के हितों के लिए आवाज उठाते रहे। मंत्री बनने के बाद भी सादगी कम नहीं हुई थी।

कर्बला के शहीदों की याद में निकाला गया हजरत इमाम हुसैन का जुलूस

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : विश्वकर्मा मंदिर मेन रोड में हजरत इमाम हुसैन और कर्बला के शहीदों की याद में चेहल्लुम का मातमी जुलूस निकला गया। जुलूस निकालने से पहले अनवर आर्केड में मजलिस ए अरबीईन का आयोजन किया गया। मजलिस को मौलाना सैयद गुलाम अली नकवी ने संबोधित किया। स्वतंत्रता दिवस 15 अगस्त के अवसर पर जुलूस के साथ राष्ट्रीय ध्वज भी था। जुलूस विश्वकर्मा मंदिर लेन मेन रोड से शुरू होकर अंजुमन प्लाजा चौक, उर्दू लाइब्रेरी, डेली मार्केट, टैक्सि स्टैंड, गांधी चौक, चर्च रोड, विक्रांत चौक होते हुए कर्बला स्थित कर्बला चौक स्थित कर्बला पर समाप्त हुआ। रांची



जिला प्रशासन, कोतवाली डीएसपी, हिंदीपीढ़ी थाना, डेली मार्केट थाना, लोअर बाजार थाना प्रभारी अपनी निगरानी में जुलूस को आगे बढ़ा रहे थे, प्रशासन 15 अगस्त के अवसर पर जुलूस के साथ राष्ट्रीय ध्वज भी था। जुलूस विश्वकर्मा मंदिर लेन मेन रोड से शुरू होकर अंजुमन प्लाजा चौक, उर्दू लाइब्रेरी, डेली मार्केट, टैक्सि स्टैंड, गांधी चौक, चर्च रोड, विक्रांत चौक होते हुए कर्बला स्थित कर्बला चौक स्थित कर्बला पर समाप्त हुआ। रांची

बिरसा कृषि विश्वविद्यालय में रैगिंग के खिलाफ किया गया जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : झारखंड की राजधानी रांची स्थित बिरसा कृषि विश्वविद्यालय (बीएयू) के पशु चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय में शनिवार को एंटी रैगिंग सप्ताह के अवसर पर जागरूकता कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। पशु चिकित्सा संकाय के अधिष्ठाता डॉ. एमके गुप्त, वार्डन डॉ. अरविंद कुमार शर्मा और उप वार्डन डॉ. अर्पणा ने रैगिंग के दुष्प्रभावों के बारे में चर्चा करते हुए ऐसे कृत्य में किसी प्रकार की संलग्नता से बचने का परामर्श विद्यार्थियों को दिया। कार्यक्रम के दौरान वक्ताओं ने कहा कि रैगिंग से पीड़ित विद्यार्थी मानसिक और भावात्मक रूप से कमजोर हो जाता है। इससे उसके शैक्षणिक (एकेडमिक) प्रदर्शन पर तो प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ता ही है, शिक्षण संस्थान की छवि भी धूमिल होती है। इसलिए रैगिंग में शामिल होने वाले छात्र-छात्राओं के प्रति विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग (यूजीसी) और उच्चतम न्यायालय



का बहुत कड़ा रुख है। भारतीय दंड संहिता के प्रावधानों के तहत रैगिंग करने वालों को बिना वारंट के गिरफ्तार किया जा सकता है। इस अवसर पर सभी छात्र-छात्राओं को प्रत्यक्ष या परोक्ष रूप से रैगिंग में किसी प्रकार की भागीदारी नहीं करने का संकल्प दिलाया गया।

पुण्यतिथि

पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी को भाजपा नेताओं ने किया नमन

झारखंड की जनता के दिलों में बसते हैं वाजपेयी: बाबूलाल

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : झारखंड में प्रदेश भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) की ओर से शनिवार को पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी की पुण्यतिथि मनाई गई। विधानसभा परिसर में स्थापित श्रद्धेय अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी की आदमकद प्रतिमा एवं प्रदेश कार्यालय में पार्टी नेताओं की ओर से उनके चित्र पर श्रद्धा सुमन अर्पित काए गए। भाजपा प्रदेश अध्यक्ष एवं नेता प्रतिपक्ष बाबूलाल मरांडी, कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष डॉ. रविंद्र कुमार राय, प्रदेश संगठन महामंत्री कर्मवीर सिंह, प्रदेश महामंत्री एवं सांसद आदित्य साहू, डॉ. प्रदीप चंदा, मनोज सिंह, महानगर अध्यक्ष चरुण साहू ने अटल जी के व्यक्तित्व एवं



अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी की पुण्यतिथि पर श्रद्धांजलि देते बाबूलाल मरांडी व अन्य नेता • फोटोन न्यूज

कृतित्व को याद करते हुए उन्हें श्रद्धांजलि दी। इस अवसर पर बाबूलाल मरांडी ने कहा कि अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी एक विराट व्यक्तित्व का नाम है। मां भारती के सच्चे सपूत, कवि हृदय अटल जी झारखंड की जनता के दिलों में बसे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि अटल जी ने स्वर्णिम चतुर्भुज योजना से विकसित भारत की नींव रखी, वहीं प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना से गांव और शहर की दूरियां कम कीं। पोखरण परीक्षण से एक मजबूत भारत से दुनिया का परिचय हुआ। कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष

डॉ रविंद्र कुमार राय ने कहा कि झारखंड अलग राज्य का सपना साकार करने वाले श्रद्धेय अटल जी ने केवल अलग राज्य का सपना साकार नहीं किया, बल्कि आधुनिक भारत के निर्माण में उन्होंने क्रांतिकारी कदम उठाए। विकसित भारत, स्वाभिमानी भारत की नींव अटल जी ने रखी। प्रदेश संगठन महामंत्री कर्मवीर सिंह ने श्रद्धा सुमन अर्पित करते हुए कहा कि अटल जी जीवन पर्यंत अज्ञात शत्रु रहे। सभी दलों के कार्यकर्ताओं के बीच उनका वही सम्मान था जो अपने दल में था। उन्होंने कहा कि अटल जी देश के लिए जिए और जब-जब अवसर आया विश्व पटल पर भारत का मान बढ़ाया।

अग्रवाल सभा के मेगा रक्तदान शिविर में 201 यूनिट रक्त संग्रह

RANCHI : झारखंड प्रांतीय मारवाड़ी सम्मेलन और अग्रवाल युवा सभा की ओर से शनिवार को रांची स्थित महाराजा अग्रसेन भवन सभागार में मेगा रक्तदान शिविर का आयोजन हुआ। सभा के स्थापना दिवस और स्वतंत्रता दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित इस शिविर में 201 यूनिट रक्त संग्रह किया गया। रक्तदान शिविर का शुभारम्भ झारखंड प्रांतीय मारवाड़ी सम्मेलन के अध्यक्ष सुरेश चंद्र अग्रवाल और पदाधिकारियों ने संयुक्त रूप से इस किया। इस अवसर पर अग्रवाल युवा सभा के अध्यक्ष रौनक झुनझुवाला ने कहा कि हेल्थ प्वाइंट हॉस्पिटल, बारियातू रोड के सहयोग से लगाए गए इस शिविर में 201 यूनिट रक्त संग्रह कर मानवता की सेवा में एक स्वर्णिम अध्याय को जोड़ा गया।

सीसीएल मुख्यालय में मनाया गया स्वतंत्रता दिवस

PHOTON NEWS RANCHI : शुक्रवार को सीसीएल मुख्यालय सहित सभी क्षेत्रों में 79वां स्वतंत्रता दिवस धूम-धाम के साथ मनाया गया। सीसीएल के सीएमडी नौलेंदु कुमार सिंह ने सीसीएल गांधीनगर कॉलोनी स्थित महात्मा गांधी क्रीडागण में ध्वजारोहण किया एवं सलामी दी। इस अवसर पर सीसीएल के निदेशक (मानव संसाधन) हर्ष नाथ मिश्रा, निदेशक (तकनीकी/संचालन) चंद्र शेखर तिवारी, मुख्य सतर्कता अधिकारी पंकज कुमार, सीआईएसएफ की डीआईजी अनुराधा सहित विभिन्न विभागों के विभागाध्यक्ष, श्रमिकसंघों के प्रतिनिधि एवं बड़ी संख्या में सीसीएल कर्मी उपस्थित थे। सीएमडी सिंह ने अवसर पर सुरक्षा बलों एवं विद्यार्थियों के परेडों का निरीक्षण भी किया। सीएमडी, सीसीएल श्ने उपस्थित जनसमूह को संबोधित करते हुए सभी को स्वतंत्रता दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं दी और वीर शहीदों के अतुल्य पाठक्रम को नमन किया। उन्होंने कहा कि सीसीएल न केवल भारत की ऊर्जा आवश्यकताओं को पूरा कर रहा है, बल्कि नए भारत के निर्माण और झारखंड के औद्योगिक विकास में भी अहम योगदान दे रहा है।

BRIEF NEWS

बिरसानगर से युवक का अपहरण, इलाके में सनसनी

JAMSHEDPUR : बिरसानगर थाना क्षेत्र के जोन नंबर-11 स्थित गणेश मंदिर के पास से मंगलवार को कृष्णा महतो नामक युवक का अपहरण हो गया था। कृष्णा महतो बिरसानगर जोन नंबर 11 के रोड नंबर 4 का निवासी है। इस मामले में कृष्णा के बड़े भाई प्रकाश महतो ने पुलिस में शिकायत दर्ज कराई है। अपहरण की इस घटना से इलाके में सनसनी फैली हुई है। प्रकाश महतो के आवेदन पर पुलिस ने जोन नंबर 11 गणेश मंदिर के पास रहने वाले राजेश महतो और जोन नंबर 9 शिव मिलन होटल के पास रहने वाले मुकेश मुर्मू को आरोपी बनाया है। दोनों के खिलाफ नामजद प्राथमिकी दर्ज की गई है। पुलिस आरोपियों की तलाश में छापेमारी कर रही है, लेकिन दोनों फरार हैं। बताया जाता है कि यह घटना 12 अगस्त को हुई थी, लेकिन मामले की सूचना पुलिस को शुक्रवार को दी गई।

डिमना लेक के पास अज्ञात व्यक्ति का शव बरामद

JAMSHEDPUR : पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिले के बोड़ाम थाना क्षेत्र अंतर्गत डिमना लेक से सटे मिजाडीह हाट के पास शनिवार सुबह स्थानीय लोगों ने एक अज्ञात व्यक्ति का शव देखा। शव पुलिया के नीचे गिरा हुआ था। इसकी जानकारी मिलते ही मौके पर ग्रामीणों और राहगीरों की भीड़ जुट गई। सूचना पाकर बोड़ाम थाना की पुलिस घटनास्थल पर पहुंची और शव को पोस्टमार्टम के लिए भेज दिया। मृतक की अब तक पहचान नहीं हो पाई है। पुलिस ने आसपास मौजूद लोगों से शिनाख्त कराने की कोशिश की, लेकिन कोई सफलता नहीं मिली।

सड़क हादसे में स्कूटी सवार युवती गंभीर रूप से घायल

JAMSHEDPUR : बिष्टुपुर थाना क्षेत्र के सिकंदर हाउस एरिया में शनिवार को सड़क हादसा हो गया, जिसमें स्कूटी सवार युवती गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गई है। बताया जाता है कि घर लौट रही युवती को एक अज्ञात वाहन ने जोरदार टक्कर मार दी। हादसे में घायल युवती को एमजीएम अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है। घायल युवती की पहचान बेबी ठाकुर के रूप में हुई है, जो बारीडीह बस्ती स्थित बजरंग चौक के पास की रहने वाली है। जानकारी के अनुसार, वह सोनारी स्थित आशियाना गार्डन में भारत मेट सर्विस का काम खत्म कर स्कूटी से अपने घर लौट रही थीं। इसी दौरान पीछे से आए एक अज्ञात वाहन ने उनकी स्कूटी में जोरदार टक्कर मार दी। टक्कर लगने के बाद बेबी ठाकुर सड़क पर गिरकर गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गईं। स्थानीय लोगों ने उसे तुरंत उखाकर टाटा मुख्य अस्पताल पहुंचाया। प्राथमिक उपचार के बाद डॉक्टरों ने उसकी गंभीर स्थिति को देखते हुए एमजीएम अस्पताल रेफर कर दिया। प्रत्यक्षदर्शियों का कहना है कि टक्कर मारने वाला वाहन मौके से फरार हो गया।

नेमरा में लगा जाम, ट्रैफिक व्यवस्था देखने सड़क पर उतरे मंत्री

PHOTON NEWS RAMGARH : दिशोम गुरु शिबू सोरेन का श्राद्धकर्म शनिवार को नेमरा में हो रहा है। यहां पूरे देश से कई दिग्गज नेता पहुंच रहे हैं। गोला से नेमरा तक की दूरी लगभग 25 किलोमीटर है। पूरे रास्ते पर गाड़ियों की लंबी कतार लगी हुई है। ट्रैफिक व्यवस्था पूरी तरीके से चरमरा गई है। गाड़ियों की लंबी कतार को पार्किंग तक पहुंचाने के लिए पुलिस को काफी मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। मंत्री योगेंद्र प्रसाद खुद ट्रैफिक व्यवस्था को ठीक करने के लिए सड़क पर उतरे। उन्होंने कई स्थानों पर गाड़ियों को सुचारु रूप से चलने का निर्देश दिया। आम नागरिकों से भी आयरटेक नहीं करने की अपील की। यहां तक कि वेक पोस्ट पर वह खुद रुक कर गाड़ियों को पार्किंग में लगवाते नजर आए। यातायात एवं पार्किंग व्यवस्थाओं का विस्तृत निरीक्षण किया और संबंधित अधिकारियों को सुचारु ट्रैफिक व्यवस्था को लेकर आवश्यक दिशा निर्देश दिए।



रांची से आरआईटी थाना आए थे मालखाना का चार्ज देने, थाने में ही रह रहे थे

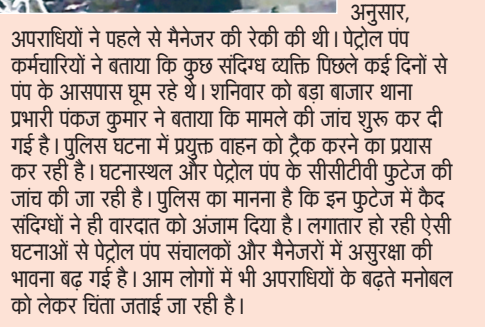
आदित्यपुर में थाना के पास मिला सब-इंस्पेक्टर का शव, सनसनी

PHOTON NEWS JAMSHEDPUR : सरायकेला-खरसावां जिले के आरआईटी थाना क्षेत्र में शनिवार तड़के तब सनसनी फैल गई, जब आरआईटी थाना से सटे जागृति मैदान के उत्तरी छोर स्थित एक मुर्गा दुकान के पास से सब-इंस्पेक्टर अरुण कुमार सिंह का शव बरामद हुआ। सूचना पाकर पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची और शव को कब्जे में लेकर पोस्टमार्टम के लिए भेज दिया है। सब-इंस्पेक्टर की मौत कैसे हुई, इसे लेकर अभी तक कोई खुलासा नहीं हो सका है। पुलिस इसे प्रथम दृष्टया दुर्घटना मानकर चल रही है। पुलिस का मानना है कि जहां सब इंस्पेक्टर का शव मिला। वहीं नजदीक में एक बड़ा सा पत्थर भी है। पुलिस आशंका जता रही है कि सब इंस्पेक्टर किसी पत्थर पर गिर गए होंगे। इसके चलते उनके सिर में गंभीर चोट लगी होगी। इससे शायद उन्हें ब्रेन हेमरेज हो गया हो, क्योंकि सब-इंस्पेक्टर के नाक और कान से खून निकला हुआ था। इसी के चलते पुलिस इसे हादसा मान रही है। जबकि, घटना को लेकर क्षेत्र में तरह-तरह की चर्चा है। सब इंस्पेक्टर चार्ज देने के लिए रांची से कुछ दिन पहले यहां आए थे। मालखाने का चार्ज काफी दिन तक चलता है। बताते हैं कि वह थाना परिसर में ही एक रूम में रुके हुए थे। ऐसे में वह रात को थाना परिसर से बाहर क्यों निकले। यह बड़ा सवाल है। जबकि, पुलिस का मानना है कि रात भर थाने का गेट खुला रहता है। हो सकता है कि उन्हें कोई जरूरत महसूस हुई हो और वह बाहर निकले हों।



हजारीबाग में पेट्रोल पंप के मैनेजर पर हमला कर 2.80 लाख की लूट

PHOTON NEWS HAZARIBAG : हजारीबाग के खिरगांव स्थित आरआर पेट्रोल पंप के मैनेजर अवेश कुमार पर शुक्रवार रात अपराधियों ने हमला कर दो लाख 80 हजार रुपये लूटकर फरार हो गए। घटना नमस्कार चौक के पास की है। इस दौरान अपराधियों ने अवेश कुमार पर फायरिंग भी की। इस हमले में मैनेजर बाइक से गिर गए और उनके हाथ में चोट आई। घायल मैनेजर को शेख भिखारी मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है। अवेश कुमार कटकमदाग थाना क्षेत्र के कूद गांव के रहने वाले हैं। वे बैंक बंद होने के कारण दिन का कलेक्शन इमली कोठी चौक स्थित पेट्रोल पंप मालिक के घर ले जा रहे थे। पुलिस के अनुसार, अपराधियों ने पहले से मैनेजर की रेकी की थी। पेट्रोल पंप कर्मचारियों ने बताया कि कुछ सदिग्ध व्यक्ति पिछले कई दिनों से पंप के आसपास घूम रहे थे। शनिवार को बड़ा बाजार थाना प्रभारी पंकज कुमार ने बताया कि मामले की जांच शुरू कर दी गई है। पुलिस घटना में प्रयुक्त वाहन को ट्रैक करने का प्रयास कर रही है। घटनास्थल और पेट्रोल पंप के सीसीटीवी फुटेज की जांच की जा रही है। पुलिस का मानना है कि इन फुटेज में केद सदिग्धों ने ही वाहदात को अंजाम दिया है। लगातार हो रही ऐसी घटनाओं से पेट्रोल पंप संचालकों और मैनेजर्स में असुरक्षा की भावना बढ़ गई है। आम लोगों में भी अपराधियों के बढ़ते मनोबल को लेकर चिंता जताई जा रही है।



लोहरदगा में सर्पदंश से दो की मौत



PHOTON NEWS LOHARDAGA : जिले के कुडू थाना क्षेत्र के सलगी पंचायत के धौरा गांव में दिल दहला देने वाली घटना सामने आई है। जब दो ग्रामीणों की मौत करैत सांप के काटने से हो गई। सबसे बड़ा दुर्भाग्य यह रहा कि धौरा से बड़की चांपी तक जर्जर सड़क भी दोनों की मौत का कारण बना, गड़्डों के कारण सलगी के धौरा से दोनों को इलाज के लिए बसारडीह कल्याण अस्पताल लेकर जा रहे वाहन को अस्पताल पहुंचाने में एक घंटा लग गया तब तक विष पूरे शरीर में फैल चुका था। ग्रामीणों के अनुसार सलगी पंचायत के धौरा गांव निवासी 43 वर्षीय नरेश मुंडा और गांव का ही 8 वर्षीय अमित मुंडा शुक्रवार को गांव के तालाब में मछली मारने के बाद शाम में खाना खाकर टीवी देखते-देखते जमीन पर सो गए थे। देर रात जब परिजन टीवी बंद करने कमरे से निकले तो बगल में सांप पर नजर पड़ गया तथा अमित मुंडा के मुंह से झाग निकल रहा था, इसके बाद दोनों को रात में इलाज के लिए निजी वाहन से लोहरदगा सदर प्रखंड के बसारडीह कल्याण अस्पताल लेकर जा रहे थे धूमिलों की मौत हो गई जबकि अस्पताल पहुंचने पर चिकित्सकों ने नरेश मुंडा को भी मृत घोषित कर दिया। दोनों दादा-पोते बताये गये हैं। ग्रामीणों ने बताया कि धौरा से लेकर बड़की चांपी की दूरी महज 10 किलोमीटर है लेकिन सड़क की हालत बंद से बदतर होने के कारण धौरा से बड़की चांपी तथा बड़की चांपी से बसारडीह कल्याण अस्पताल पहुंचने में लगभग दो घंटे लग गए। सड़क को समय से इलाज शुरू हो जाता तथा दोनों को बचाया जा सकता था। घटना के बाद पूरे गांव में मातम छाया हुआ है। मामले की सूचना कुडू पुलिस को दी गई है। पुलिस ने दोनों शव को पोस्टमार्टम के लिए लोहरदगा सदर अस्पताल भेज दिया है।

राधा-कृष्ण के वेश में सजे बच्चों ने मोहा मन

PHOTON NEWS JAMSHEDPUR : सिदगोड़ा स्थित सूर्य मंदिर में श्रीकृष्ण जन्माष्टमी की धूम रही, जिसमें छोटे-छोटे बच्चे राधा व कृष्ण के वेश में सजे थे। बच्चों ने अपनी वेशभूषा, भाव-भंगिमा व नृत्य से सबका मन मोह लिया। तीन दिनों से चल रहे श्रीकृष्ण जन्माष्टमी महोत्सव का समापन शनिवार को हो गया। शनिवार को महोत्सव के तीसरे और अंतिम दिन सिदगोड़ा स्थित बिरसा मुंडा टाउन हॉल में बाल राधा-कृष्ण समाजों प्रतियोगिता और सामूहिक नृत्य प्रतियोगिता का फाइनल हुआ। दोनों प्रतियोगिता के फाइनल में प्रतिभागियों का कड़ा मुकाबला देखने को मिला। इस दौरान बाल राधा कृष्ण सजाओ प्रतियोगिता के 30 फाइनलिस्ट एवं सामूहिक नृत्य



प्रतियोगिता के 7 फाइनलिस्ट समूहों ने अपने प्रतिभा का शानदार प्रदर्शन किया। बाल-राधा कृष्ण सजाओ प्रतियोगिता में नटखट नन्हे बाल गोपाल एवं राधा रानी ने सबका मन मोह लिया। प्रतियोगिता के दौरान विभिन्न सामाजिक विषयों पर आधारित नृत्यों में प्रतिभागियों का प्रदर्शन अद्भुत और मनोरंजनपूर्ण रहा, जिसमें सभी समूहों ने अपने कला की उच्चतम मानकों का प्रदर्शन किया। प्रतियोगिता में जज के रूप में सोनाली चटर्जी, देबांजलि राँवचौधरी, राजश्री मान, मौसमी चक्रवर्ती, कोमल प्रसाद आदि ने महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। प्रतियोगिता के समापन समारोह में राज्य के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री एवं सूर्य मंदिर समिति के मुख्य संरक्षक रघुवर दास मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में शामिल हुए। इस अवसर पर विधायक पूर्णिमा साहू, मंदिर समिति के संरक्षक चंद्रगुप्त सिंह एवं अध्यक्ष भूपेंद्र सिंह भी मौजूद रहे।

चाकुलिया में हाथियों ने वन विभाग की टीम पर किया हमला, तीन घायल

JAMSHEDPUR : पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिले के चाकुलिया प्रखंड अंतर्गत बड़ामारा पंचायत स्थित मौरबेड़ा गांव में उस समय अफरातफरी मच गई, जब हाथियों के एक झुंड ने वन विभाग की विक्क रिसॉर्स टीम पर अचानक हमला कर दिया। इस हमले में टीम के तीन सदस्य गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गए। घायलों की पहचान धर्मा सोरेन (निवासी गोंडो, प. बंगाल), अभिषेक सिंह (देवशोल, लोधाशोली पंचायत) और आशीष मांडी (दिधी गांव, चाकुलिया नगर पंचायत) के रूप में हुई है। घटना के तुरंत बाद तीनों को चाकुलिया सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्र ले जाया गया, जहां से चिकित्सकों ने उन्हें बेहतर इलाज के लिए पश्चिम बंगाल के झाड़ग्राम रेफर कर दिया।

अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी की सातवीं पुण्यतिथि पर भाजपा नेताओं ने किया याद, दी श्रद्धांजलि

PHOTON NEWS JAMSHEDPUR : भारत रत्न, पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री और भाजपा के प्रेरणापुंज अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी की सातवीं पुण्यतिथि शनिवार को भाजपा जमशेदपुर महानगर ने श्रद्धाभाव से मनाई। इस अवसर पर साकंची स्थित जिला भाजपा कार्यालय में जिलाध्यक्ष सुधांशु ओझा के नेतृत्व में कार्यकर्ताओं और नेताओं ने वाजपेयी के चित्र पर पुष्प अर्पित कर श्रद्धांजलि दी और उनके आदर्शों पर चलने का संकल्प लिया। श्रद्धांजलि कार्यक्रम में झारखंड भाजपा के पूर्व प्रदेश अध्यक्ष और हजारीबाग के पूर्व सांसद डॉ. यदुनाथ पांडेय मुख्य रूप से उपस्थित थे। डॉ. पांडेय ने अपने संबोधन में कहा कि अटल



बिहारी वाजपेयी का पूरा जीवन राष्ट्र सेवा को समर्पित था। उन्होंने 1977 में विदेश मंत्री रहते हुए संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में हिंदी में भाषण देकर हिंदी को वैश्विक पहचान दिलाई। वे सिद्धान्तनिष्ठ, सरल और हृदय इच्छाशक्ति वाले नेता थे, जिन्होंने कभी मूल विचारों से समझौता नहीं किया। उन्होंने कहा कि 24 दलों के सहयोग से बनी

आयोजन पूरे कोल्हान प्रमंडल में धूमधाम से मनाया गया 79वां स्वतंत्रता दिवस समारोह

लीज एरिया के बाहर भी नागरिक सुविधा मुहैया कराएगी टाटा स्टील : वीपी

PHOTON NEWS JAMSHEDPUR : टाटा स्टील के वीपी-सीएस (कारपोरेट सर्विसेज) डीबी सुंदरा रामम ने कहा कि टाटा स्टील कंपनी, लीज एरिया के बाहर भी नागरिक सुविधा मुहैया कराएगी। सरकार से बातचीत चल रही है। लीज नवीनीकरण व नागरिक सुविधा दोनों मुद्दे पर जल्द ही फैसला होगा। ये बातें उन्होंने शुक्रवार को टाटा स्टील मेन गेट पर आयोजित झंडोतोहन के बाद संवाददाताओं से बातचीत में कहीं। उन्होंने कहा कि कंपनी पूर्व में लीज पर मिली जमीन को भी वापस पाने के लिए प्रयासरत है। शहर व नागरिक सुविधा में पूर्व की तरह बढ़ोतरी होगी। सभी



महिला कर्मियों की संख्या 25 प्रतिशत करने का लक्ष्य
सरकार की ओर से महिलाओं को रात्रि पाली में काम करने की अनुमति मिलने पर वीपी-सीएस ने कहा कि इससे कंपनी में डायवर्सिटी मेंन पावर बनाने में सहाय्यत होगी। कंपनी जल्द ही महिला कर्मचारियों की संख्या कुल मैनपावर का 25 प्रतिशत करने का लक्ष्य हासिल करेगी। अभी तक महिलाओं के प्लांट में 24 घंटे काम नहीं करने से उनकी संख्या बढ़ाने में परेशानी हो रही थी।

गोपाल मैदान में उपायुक्त ने किया झंडोतोहन
बिष्टुपुर स्थित गोपाल मैदान में पूर्वी सिंहभूम का जिलास्तरीय मुख्य समारोह हुआ, जिसमें उपायुक्त कर्ण सत्याथी ने परेड को निरीक्षण करने के बाद विरंगा फहराया और सलामी दी। इस मौके पर वरीय पुलिस अधीक्षक पीरखु पांडेय, उपविभागाध्यक्ष आर्युक्त नागेंद्र पासवान, पुलिस अधीक्षक (ग्रामीण) ऋषभ गर्ग, पुलिस अधीक्षक (नगर) कुमार शिवाशीष, अपर उपायुक्त भगीरथ प्रसाद, एनडीपी निदेशक संतोष गर्ग समेत जिला प्रशासन और पुलिस प्रशासन के अधिकारी मौजूद थे। बड़ी संख्या में नागरिक भी इस ऐतिहासिक अवसर के साक्षी बने। अपने संबोधन में उपायुक्त कर्ण सत्याथी ने स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के वीरों, भवान बिरसा मुंडा और झारखंड आंदोलन के अग्रणी नेता स्मृतिशेख दिशोम गुरु शिबू सोरेन को श्रद्धांजलि दी। उन्होंने कहा कि पूर्वी सिंहभूम की धरती स्वतंत्रता संग्राम और देश की सुरक्षा में बलिदान देने वाले वीर सपूतों के पराक्रम से गौरवान्वित है। इसी दौरान उपायुक्त और वरीय पुलिस अधीक्षक ने वीर नारी दुर्गावती देवी को सम्मानित किया।



समिति के पदाधिकारियों से गुरुजी के बांग्ला भाषा एवं बंगभाषियों के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता को याद किया। प्रतिनिधिमंडल में नेपाल दास, संदीप सिन्हा चौधरी, पूरबी घोष, धनंजय दास, बनश्री सरकार, उदय सोनी, दिलीप महतो, आशीष मंडल, मोनी बागची, पीतांबर गोरई आदि उपस्थित थे।

Add a word to the preamble, don't subtract two

When India won freedom in 1947, some of the finest and most far-sighted ideas in the realm of anti-colonial thought lost out in the struggle for power at the helm of the post-colonial state. Foremost among these was the imperative of power-sharing arrangements between the federal centre and the constituent units. Partition, with its religious connotation, obfuscated the provincial political dynamics that had made imaginative ideas of a federation such an irresistible goal for a cross-section of anti-colonial nationalists. We need to engage in a creative process of historical retrieval of visions for substantive democracy and federal union during the struggle for freedom that remained unrealised during the post-colonial transition. On June 26, leaders of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh suggested considering removal of the terms 'secular' and 'socialist' from the preamble of the Indian Constitution. These two words had been inserted as part of the 42nd Amendment railroaded through parliament during the authoritarian interregnum of the Emergency. The erasure of 'secular' would be a symbolic victory for the proponents of a Hindu republic and consigning 'socialist' to the dustbin of history would be appropriate in an era that brazenly revels in increasing socio-economic inequality.

Both secularism and socialism had been added by Indira Gandhi as ideological pillars of centralised state authority. As these columns have cracked and crumbled in formally democratic India, religious majoritarianism has been harnessed in the service of centralised authoritarianism. If symbolism in the preamble matters, it may be much wiser to add a word rather than subtracting two. On November 15, 1948, K T Shah had brought an amendment to Article 1 to proclaim: "India shall be a secular, federal, socialist union of states." The preamble was not up for debate at that stage of the proceedings, hence Shah wanted to bring clarity by amending the first article. "Lest the term 'union' should lead anyone to imagine that it is a unitary government," Shah stated, "I should like to make it clear, in the very first article, the first clause of that article, that it is a 'federal union'." B R Ambedkar made two objections. First, he claimed that the Constitution was "merely a mechanism for the purpose of regulating the various organs of the State" and "what should be the policy of the State, how the society should be organised... cannot be laid down in the Constitution itself". Second, he regarded Shah's amendment to be "superfluous" so far as the term 'socialist' was concerned, but said nothing about 'secular' and 'federal'. He claimed that if the directive principles in the Constitution were "not socialistic in their direction and their content, I fail to understand what more socialism can be".

After Shah's sage suggestion to include the word 'federal' was rejected, Mahboob Ali Baig wondered if "the framers of the draft Constitution had in the back of their minds a unitary government and yet called it federal... If you mean that the government must be a federal government and not a unitary government, and if you want to prevent in future any power-seeking party to convert it into a unitary form of government and become fascist and totalitarian, then it is up to us now to use the correct word, which is federation". This amendment, too, was negated. Shah was nothing if not persistent. He brought another amendment to Clause 1 of Article 1, adding the words "equal inter se" after the word "states", and used that opportunity to rebut the points Ambedkar had made. It was "something new" for him to hear that the Constitution was "a mechanism for regulating the various organs of government" and that "any desire to include in it any aspiration of the people might be regarded as somewhat out of place".

High-wage jobs can rev up Punjab

Employer compliance needs to be decriminalised, deregulated and digitised

THE oft-quoted Punjabi aphorism, Khaada peeta lahe da, Baki Ahmed Shahe da (eat and drink whatever you can because the invader will take the rest), may feel like it explains some of the high discount rate, low savings rate and consumption preferences of the state. But such cultural explanations are at best the soft bigotry of low expectations, and at worst, racism. We argue that policymakers can reverse involuntary migration and transform Punjab into a rich habitat for high-wage jobs through a principles-based programme of decriminalisation, deregulation and digitisation of employer compliance. India's problem isn't jobs and unemployment, but wages and employed poverty. This arises from the shortage of high-productivity, formal, non-farm employers — our 63 million enterprises only translate to 29,500 companies with a paid-up capital of more than Rs 10 crore. Why? One possible explanation is regulatory cholesterol; employers face 69,233 compliance requirements, 6,618 filings and 26,134 jail provisions. The problematic philosophies embedded in this excessive compliance include "permitted until prohibited," "show me the person and I'll show you the rule," and the notion that drunk driving is an argument against cars. This complexity breeds corruption, uncertainty and informality, and many of our employers are dwarfs (small that will stay small) and not babies (small that will grow). As quality guru Edwards Deming reminded us, a bad system always beats a good man.

Punjab, like India, does not have a shortage of land, labour or capital, but faces challenges in how these three factors of production combine into productive enterprises (economists call this Total Factor Productivity, while people in general call it entrepreneurship or technology). Punjab, with a GSDP of Rs 8.9 lakh crore, is home to over 12.8 lakh MSMEs (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises), 4.06 lakh businesses that pay GST and 26,952 registered companies. However, formalisation in the state is low, with only 1.1 per cent of entities making monthly provident fund contributions. Other issues on the employment and wage landscape include manufacturing employment, good urbanisation, exports, services and women's labour force participation. Employers in Punjab face a complex array of 827 Acts (150 state ones), 29,758 compliance requirements (4,221 from state laws), 2,410 filings (128 from state laws) and 7,153 jail provisions (1,914 from state laws). We propose three reforms that would help make Punjab a productive ground for high-wage job

creation:

Decriminalisation: Punjab must leapfrog the limited success of Jan Vishwas 1.0 (which removed only 110 employer-related jail provisions) by adopting the principles-based philosophy articulated by the Ministry of Commerce that advocates thinking about (a) if the provision involves a procedural action, inaction or compliance; (b) if the provision is a general contravention where singular punishment is prescribed for multiple unspecified offences; (c) whether the offence would result in physical harm or externalities so large that compensation is not feasible (e.g. threats to national integrity or public order); (d) whether it involves mala fide intent to defraud any stakeholder such as employees, shareholders or the government; (e)



number of ongoing or pending cases under that provision; (f) whether the prescribed punishment is appropriate and proportionate; (g) if the offence is already punishable under another legislation; and (h) whether the offence is better regulated through civil penalties, particularly for first-time violations.

Decriminalisation is not about being soft on crime but bright about regulation. Given that hardly any employers are in jail, despite numerous ways to be jailed, it's clear that the law is not working due to corruption or selective enforcement. Using these principles, two Bills — one for state laws and another for concurrent laws — could eliminate 90 per cent of the current criminal provisions. Digitisation: Entrepreneurs struggle with non-paperless, non-presenceless and non-cashless compliance workflows. A Punjab Open Compliance grid modelled on India's digital public goods framework, architecture and infrastructure, including API Setu, Entity DigiLocker and PAN 2.0

Parties have to clean up public installations

Rules will have to be formulated for erecting them on private land. Organisers of big rallies will have to clean the area and return the place to its original condition

Political outfits across India, who have considered erecting party flagpoles in public places a right, are in for a rude shock. The Supreme Court has upheld a Madras High Court order asking political parties and community organisations to take down flagpoles put up on government premises across Tamil Nadu. Before dismissing a plea challenging the January 27 order by the Madras High Court's Madurai bench, Justice J K Maheshwari of the Supreme Court asked, "How can you use government land for political benefits?" Though political parties may set up flagpoles on private land during their campaigns and public meetings, the high court had instructed that they ought to be removed after the meetings. It had also directed the Tamil Nadu government to formulate rules for installing flagpoles on private land.

Flagpoles often cause inconvenience to commuters. However, they are not the only disruptive things installed by political parties. In a separate verdict, the Madras High Court's Madurai bench has also directed the state



government to take steps to remove all illegal flex boards, hoardings, and arches erected on public roads and pedestrian pathways. This followed a public interest litigation arguing that a previous high court order on the

(Common Business Identifier), would consolidate time-based, event-based, ongoing and licence-based compliance requirements into a single, seamless digital platform. State departments will publish licences, permissions, NOCs, consent orders and regulatory updates directly into a secure, tamper-proof platform, enabling firms to streamline regulatory filings, periodic returns and register maintenance. This would replace today's opaque, manual workflows, where employers rely on costly intermediaries with transparent, trackable and corruption-resistant processes. Deregulation: Entrepreneurs define compliance as any obligation outlined in an Act or rule (Union, State, local or regulatory level) that requires actions such as obtaining or renewing licences, making payments and maintaining records; any failure to meet these obligations can result in penalties. Punjab must establish a State Regulatory Reform Committee to rationalise compliance requirements. The committee would reimagine the state's regulatory framework, eliminate departmental redundancies and promote seamless compliance. A possible principles-based approach would examine every compliance obligation for whether the regulation is already under review for repeal, consolidation or reform; how frequently it is amended in ways that may disrupt compliance; how much duplication there is with other laws; legal obsolescence; weigh the cost of compliance against the governance value; assess relevance to technological, economic and social realities; and identify gaps between a law's intent and its execution. Using this framework, each compliance obligation should be marked Red (Remove), Amber (Modify) and Green (Retain). In his book *The Death of Consensus*, historian Phil Tinline suggests, "Democracy means that any unthinkable new idea has to go through a long trial before it can be sufficiently established for a government to act on it. The dispelling of an old nightmare, the destruction of an old taboo, takes a lot of back-and-forth wrangling between the established orthodoxy and the new regime. While that is happening, things look bleak, and frightening". The economic regime adopted by India after 1947 — codified in the Avadi resolution of 1955 — vilified entrepreneurs. But without employers there are no employees, and fiscal and monetary policy cannot substitute for wages. The best route for tackling Punjab's fiscal challenges (47 per cent debt-to-GSDP ratio, expected to rise above 50 per cent by FY28) and blunting outward migration is to complement its fertile agricultural soil with a fertile habitat for high-wage employers. Any takers?

issue had been grossly violated by political parties and the government throughout the state.

Tamil Nadu is also known for erecting gigantic cutouts of political leaders and film stars. An angry high court has reminded us that the competent authorities—the police, revenue officials and local bodies—are bound to prevent and remove such illegal and dangerous installations in public places. If the authorities fail to follow the order, it would amount to dereliction of duty. The court has warned that in case untoward incidents occur due to such failure, the concerned authorities should be prosecuted and subjected to disciplinary proceedings.

With these rulings, parties and the government will have to ensure that public places are free of flagpoles as well as hoardings and cutouts. Rules will have to be formulated for erecting them on private land. Organisers of big rallies will have to clean the area and return the place to its original condition. Nothing less than a cultural change is needed to bring about such a transformation among political parties—in Tamil Nadu as across the country

Election Commission's worrying omissions

The Bihar SIR is not the first time the Election Commission has come under criticism. But till now, it had been accused more of lapses and bias, not malfeasance. To restore its credibility and safeguard democracy, it needs more leaders like T N Seshan

In no other democratic country has the institution that conducts elections been under such a harsh spotlight as the Election Commission of India (ECI) is today. In no other country has an election commission been accused of deleting more 'false' voters in a decadal registral revision than population growth over that period makes arithmetically feasible. In no other country has an election commission implied to the highest court that a voting-age citizen cannot necessarily vote.

Since its formation in 1950, the ECI has, even while being lauded on certain occasions, been criticised for systemic issues, stupefying lapses and overlooked challenges. The first general election in 1952, marred by issues such as vote-buying, coercion and intimidation, was an omen of troubles to come.

The Representation of the People Act, 1950 profiles and delimits electoral offences, but penalties remain outdated and underdeterrent. The ECI responds with advisories rather than decisive action. Over the past decade, the ECI's reflexive defence of the putative wrongdoer—contestant or campaigner—has become its default mode. This becomes particularly thorny when the hypocentre is the ECI itself. The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Bihar has proved to be an exercise so supremely controversial that it has taken on the contours of the undoing of Indian democracy itself—an unprecedented charge against an institution considered the edifice of democracy. Not that the ECI has never conducted SIRs before, but those between 1952-56 and 2004 were not as contentious (despite some being accused of subpar coverage of the citizenry). The ECI sought to address the booth-capturing and harrying with measures such as voter ID cards in 1993 and electronic voting machines in 2004—but they have been unravelling, too. Perhaps we

need to ask ourselves why the ECI has attracted charges of omnipotent electoral malintent only over the past decade—despite never quite having been out of the woods of controversy even during the Congress times.

In February, Rahul Gandhi dissented over the appointments of the sitting Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioner (EC) Vivek Joshi, questioning their non-partisanship. The fact is that the appointment process has a history of opacity. In 2009, the CEC N Gopalaswami recommended the removal of EC Navin Chawla, who had been accused by the BJP of partisanship. Chawla went on to become the CEC. The ECI has long ignored calls for a collegium-based appointment system, as recommended by the Vithal Mahadeo Tarkunde Committee in 1975 and the Dinesh Goswami Committee in 1990 to reduce executive control. Over time, the ECI began being accused of running with the ruling party. However, it exercised a questionable whimsicality when it wanted to. It flipped, for example, on electoral bonds, opposing them in 2017 but supporting them in 2021. And that it didn't break a sweat when the Supreme Court eventually outlawed electoral bonds speaks of how impervious it has become to steadfastness of purpose as well as public accountability. Faced with doubt, the ECI consults itself. Decisions are taken by majority vote—which are always and intriguingly consensual—between the CEC and the two ECs. The ECI and State Election Commissions (SECs)—autonomous bodies constitutionally

established and appointed by governors—have at times cut out state governments (as the Bengal SEC did when informing the ECI it was ready to conduct an SIR in Bengal without having intimated the state government). This is despite the fact that SECs and the ECI have separate electoral functions: the ECI handles national, state legislative, state council elections and



elections for the president and the vice-president; the SECs administer elections to the third tier of governance—panchayati raj institutions and urban local bodies. The ECI's once-firm stance on the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), formally released in 1974, has been dwindling towards nonchalance. Absent

statutory backing, the MCC could have been impuissant, but a decade and a half after its formulation, CEC TN Seshan gave it a backbone. But subsequent CECs have been unable or unwilling to be good conductors to the point that today the MCC is considered more an unrealisable ideal than a doable mandate. In 2019, the ECI responded to MCC violations by claiming to be a "toothless tiger". It was a stunning admission from the least disempowerable amongst all Constitutional bodies—but it was humble-bragging, because the violations involved the ruling party. This was hardly the least of its absurdities: in 2024, CEC Rajiv Kumar quoted poetry to dismiss poll rigging allegations in 2024. Seshan is often hailed as the most transformative CEC. He introduced voter ID cards, staggered polling, and strict monitoring of campaign spending. Incensed by MCC violations, he postponed elections and disqualified candidates. But his legacy has also been one of positional truculence and self-regard: he had, after all, challenged the 1993 ordinance expanding the ECI to a multi-commissioner office. Indeed, previous CECs left a spoor for their successors to follow. Navin Chawla's tenure was marred by allegations of partisanship towards the then ruling UPA. Lenient towards MCC violations, especially during UPA campaigns, he also had persistent issues with voter-roll inaccuracies.

India has had several Chawlas. But if this democracy is to survive, we cannot afford not to have another Seshan.

Star Localmart expands to 5 states, targets Rs 5000 crore revenue in next 5 years

New Delhi.(Agency)

Star Localmart, the rural-first supermarket chain by Ghodawat Retail Pvt Ltd, has announced aggressive expansion plans across five Indian states -- Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Goa -- as it eyes a revenue milestone of Rs 5000 crores over the next five years.

The company, which currently operates over 129 stores in Maharashtra and Karnataka, plans to scale up to 3,000 stores by 2030, reinforcing its vision of becoming India's largest rural retail chain.

The company is poised to boost its ambitions by implementing a dynamic and scalable model, known as COCO (Company-Owned, Company-Operated). This innovative approach will further enhance the operational efficiency of the stores while ensuring balanced control over its expansion initiatives, positioning the company for robust growth in India's competitive retail landscape, the company said in a statement.

Srinivas Kolluru, Business Head, Ghodawat Retail Pvt. Ltd., said, "Star Localmart is entering a pivotal growth phase. Our Rs 5000 crore target is more than just a number -- it represents our commitment to empowering rural communities, generating jobs within the vicinity, supporting local entrepreneurs and farmers, and driving inclusive economic growth. With the right mix of local insights and strategic execution, we are building a future-ready retail network that serves both people and progress." The company is redefining neighbourhood grocery shopping in the rural areas by equipping the smaller towns with modern supermarkets. Currently, the company sells over 3,000 different types of stock-keeping units (SKUs), which are a mix of Star and other national as well as regional brands. It stocks 50 per cent national, 30 per cent regional, and 20 per cent local brands, demonstrating consumer preference and trust.

Investors see growth in single-specialty hospitals

New Delhi.(Agency)

With traditional multi-specialty hospital chains nearing deal saturation, investors are increasingly shifting their focus on single-specialty hospitals (SSHs), which are fast emerging as the next growth frontier in India's healthcare landscape.

Offering focused care, operational efficiency and faster scalability, SSHs have become particularly attractive to private equity (PE) firms, analysts told TOI. This shift is reflected in deal activity: SSHs now account for over half of all hospital transactions by volume, supported by \$2.3 billion in PE investments over the past three years, according to data from Grant Thornton Bharat.

Over the past decade, deal volumes in India's single-specialty hospital segment remained steady, peaking in 2023. The year 2023 saw the highest deal value of \$1.2 billion, largely driven by landmark transactions such as BPEA EQT's investment in Indira IVF and Quadria's strategic investments in Maxivision and NephroPlus.

Sunil Thakur, partner at Quadria Capital, says, "Projected to more than double to \$9 billion by 2028, organised single-specialty networks offer compelling economics, (>20% earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation, 20-25% return on capital employed) powered by deep specialisation and rapid access expansion. The momentum is evident from the fact that over \$3.5 billion of PE capital has flowed into the segment in recent years."

The segment is growing at a robust 24% annually -- outpacing the 15-17% growth seen in multi-specialty counterparts -- indicating strong investor confidence. Key specialties driving this growth include, in vitro fertilisation (IVF), women's and child care, eye care, nephrology, and oncology -- each witnessing substantial deal activity. "Investor interest in the segment has remained consistent, though we are yet to see a large-value deal in 2025. Strong fundamentals, including healthy margins, better unit economics, scalability, asset-light models, and quicker break-even cycles, continue to attract both strategic and financial investors. As healthcare delivery expands beyond metro cities, single-specialty formats are increasingly seen as effective platforms for regional growth," says Bhanu Prakash Kalmath SJ, Partner and Healthcare Leader, Grant Thornton Bharat.

Primus Partners chalks roadmap for India to steer its rare earth strategy

New Delhi. (Agency)

India is moving ahead to secure its rare earth supply chain, a critical component of its clean energy and electric mobility transition. A new report titled "From Extraction to Innovation" by Primus Partners outlines a comprehensive roadmap to achieve self-reliance in rare earth magnets under the government's "Viksit Bharat" vision.

The India-headquartered global management consulting firm has put forward five policy pillars.

Among the five core policy recommendations are market assurance and demand certainty -- it calls for long-term price assurance mechanisms for NdPr oxide and NdFeB magnets, along with structured offtake agreements, to protect investors and unlock domestic demand.

It suggested setting up pilot hubs in mineral-rich states and support for 3-4 industrial leaders to drive scale-up in advanced magnet manufacturing; expansion of monazite mining, rare earth oxide refining, and NdPr production by Indian Rare Earth Limited (IREL), coupled with the creation of a national magnet buffer stock. A dedicated National Rare Earth Innovation Hub to foster industry-academia collaboration and global joint ventures for technology transfer has also been recommended. Finally, it called for setting up an inter-ministerial Magnet Ecosystem Coordination Cell under NITI Aayog or DPIIT to harmonise regulatory, fiscal, and industrial strategies.

Next-Gen GST Reforms: Higher Rates Ahead for Tobacco & Sin Goods? Find Out

New Delhi.(Agency)

In a big announcement during his Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi revealed that major changes to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) are on the way and just in time for Diwali. The government has proposed a simplified two-slab GST structure, which could make many everyday items more affordable. Furthermore, luxury and sin goods will have their own separate tax rates, aiming to strike a better balance between ease for consumers and revenue for the government.

GST May Soon Get Simpler -- Just Two Tax Slabs Ahead

Currently, GST is divided into four tax rates: 5 per cent, 12 per cent, 18 per cent, and 28 per cent. But that could soon change. Under the proposed revamp, the government plans to reduce the structure to just two main slabs -- 5 per cent and 18 per cent.

If implemented, this would bring major

relief to consumers. Nearly 99 per cent of the items currently taxed at 12 per cent are expected to move to the lower 5 per cent slab. Meanwhile, about 90 per cent of goods and services in the 28 per cent category may shift to 18 per cent, making many products more affordable.

Simplified GST Slabs: What's Changing

Under the proposed GST revamp, the tax structure will be streamlined into just two main slabs -- 5 per cent and 18 per cent.

This means: 99 per cent of items currently taxed at 12 per cent will move down to the 5 per cent slab. Nearly 90 per cent of goods and services currently under the 28 per cent rate will be brought down to 18 per cent.

What About Sin Goods Like Cigarettes and Pan Masala?

Luxury and sin goods such as cigarettes,

pan masala, cigars, and other tobacco products will continue to attract the highest GST rate of 28%. On top of that, these products also carry a compensation

New 40% GST Slab for Tobacco Products Likely

A new 40 per cent GST rate has been proposed for seven specific items, including tobacco products like cigarettes and cigars. This new slab would replace the existing 28 per cent GST + compensation cess, simplifying the tax structure by removing the cess altogether.

The GST Council, headed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, is expected to review and possibly approve these changes in its upcoming meeting in September. Since GST was rolled out in July 2017, most of the tax revenue has come from the 18 per cent slab (65 per cent).

In comparison, the 28 per cent slab contributes 11 per cent, the 12 per cent slab just 5 per cent, and the 5 per cent slab about 7 per cent of total collections.



S&P Global Upgrades Credit Ratings On 10 Indian Financial Institutions

New Delhi. (Agency)

In yet another significant development, the S&P Global Ratings has upgraded long-term issuer credit ratings on seven Indian banks and three non-banking financial companies (NBFCs). The banks are State Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Union Bank of India, Indian Bank, and Kotak Mahindra Bank and the NBFCs are Bajaj Finance, Tata Capital and L&T Finance.

The action comes after the global ratings agency raised sovereign credit rating on India. This marks the country's first sovereign upgrade by S&P in 18 years, the previous one being in 2007 when India was elevated to investment grade at BBB-. In May 2024, the agency revised its outlook

on India from 'Stable' to 'Positive'. India's financial institutions will continue to benefit from the country's strong economic growth momentum, according to S&P Global. It expects India's banks to maintain adequate asset



quality, good profitability, and enhanced capitalisation over the next 12-24 months. This is despite some pockets of stress.

Along with raising the long-term issuer credit ratings of the 10 aforementioned financial institutions, S&P Global Ratings also revised upward its assessment of the stand-alone credit profiles (SACP) of seven of these entities -- SBI, Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Union Bank of India, Indian Bank, Tata Capital and L&T Finance. The ratings on many Indian financial institutions are capped by our sovereign rating on India. This is due to the direct and indirect influence that the sovereign has on financial institutions operating in the country, S&P said.

On Thursday, S&P Global Ratings had also raised credit ratings on Oil and Natural Gas Corp. Ltd. (ONGC), Power Grid Corp. of India Ltd., NTPC Ltd., and Tata Power Co. Ltd. to 'BBB' from 'BBB-' with outlooks as stable.

Nifty may swing -11% to +4% around 25,000; macro uncertainty clouds outlook: Report

New Delhi.(Agency)

Nifty 50 could fluctuate between 11 per cent below and 4 per cent above its year-end target of 25,000 as markets face a host of uncertainties, according to a report by BofA Securities.

As per news agency ANI, the brokerage said that possible US trade tariffs on Indian goods, a shaky US economic outlook, delays in policy responses, and upcoming elections in six major Indian states could all weigh on investor sentiment. These six states together account for more than 16 per cent of India's public subsidy and capital expenditure. "We keep our Nifty year-end target intact at 25,000 but expect Nifty to swing -11 per cent to +4 per cent versus this target as markets react to emerging developments around key factors such as trade tariffs, US economic outlook,



Fed/RBI cuts, and potential fiscal support to offset tariff impact," the report noted.

BofA expects Nifty earnings to grow 7 per cent in FY26 and 11 per cent in FY27, well below market expectations of 9 per cent and 15 per cent respectively and warned that each earnings season could trigger short-term corrections rather than sustained rallies.

The firm added that timely legislative and fiscal reforms, funded by higher RBI

dividends, asset sales, fuel duties and leveraged infrastructure spending, could lift market sentiment and provide upside potential.

Publicly available data show that both the Nifty 50 and BSE Sensex have been struggling, each in the midst of their longest losing streak in over two decades.

They are down about 12.6 per cent and 11.7 per cent respectively from their record highs in September last year, with a roughly 3 per cent decline so far this year. On Thursday, however, both indices ended slightly higher in a volatile session. The Sensex rose 57.75 points (0.07 per cent) to 80,597.66, while the Nifty gained 11.95 points (0.05 per cent) to close at 24,631.30. Gains in IT, pharma, banking and consumer durables were offset by losses in metals, oil and gas, and FMCG.

High Salary, Low Satisfaction: CA Explains Why Rs 4.5 Lakh Monthly Isn't Enough

Kaushik, a chartered accountant who regularly guides people on budgeting, financial planning, and taxes, believes that it's not about how much you earn and it's about how you spend.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Earning Rs 4.5 lakh a month and still feeling financially stressed? It might sound surprising, but even high earners aren't immune to money worries thanks to something called lifestyle inflation.

Chartered accountant and tax expert Nitin Kaushik recently shared a story on X (formerly Twitter) about a client with a hefty salary who asked, "Why are we still unhappy?" His question highlights

a growing reality: financial satisfaction often has less to do with income and more to do with how we manage expectations, spending habits, and our overall mindset.

Kaushik, a chartered accountant who regularly guides people on budgeting, financial planning, and taxes, believes that it's not about how much you earn and it's about how you spend. In response to his client's question, he said, "You've made it -- a Rs 54 lakh per year income, a good job title, a decent car, branded everything." Yet, the question lingered: why do some people still feel unsatisfied, even when they're earning more than enough? That's what Kaushik set out to unpack.

Big Salary, Bigger Expenses: Where Rs 4.5 Lakh a Month Really Goes

Kaushik broke it down with some quick math. Earning Rs 4.5 lakh a month sounds impressive -- that's Rs 54 lakh a year. But after taxes (about Rs 12 lakh), you're left with Rs 42 lakh. Sounds like a

lot? Not for long. According to Kaushik, most of it vanishes into everyday urban living expenses:

- Rs 18 lakh on rent and household costs
- Rs 6 lakh for children's education
- Rs 4.5 lakh on groceries, fuel, and domestic help



- Rs 3 lakh on dining out and social events
 - Rs 4-5 lakh on travel
 - Rs 3 lakh on insurance and maintenance
- The Real Problem Isn't Income -- It's Expectations**

After covering all those expenses, even someone earning a high salary is left

with just Rs 2-3 lakh a year in savings. And that, Kaushik says, is the real issue. It's not about how much you earn -- it's about the constant pressure to keep up. "Everyone around you is posting Europe trips, buying Rs 3 crore homes, flaunting designer brands. And you? Just trying to breathe between EMIs," he says.

The Trap of Lifestyle Inflation
Kaushik points out that real satisfaction doesn't come from just earning more -- it comes from cutting out unnecessary comparisons, having control over your time, and focusing on personal growth beyond material things. It's about being clear on your life goals: choosing financial freedom over social pressure, freedom over debt, and purpose over possessions.

As he put it in a series of tweets:
"The real trap: Lifestyle inflation. The moment income rises, so do the expenses. From Uber to driver, from Goa to Greece. The hunger to 'upgrade' never ends. And now we call it standard living instead of luxury."

Advertising a natural practice: Top court closes Patanjali misleading ads case

► The Supreme Court has closed the case against Patanjali Ayurveda over misleading advertisements and lifted the temporary ban it had earlier imposed. In doing so, the top court set aside its previous order mandating stricter checks and approval requirements.

Agency New Delhi. The Supreme Court closed the Indian Medical Association's (IMA) petition against Patanjali Ayurveda over misleading claims in advertisements for traditional medicine, noting that advertising is a natural practice if manufacturing is permitted. In doing so, the top court set aside its earlier order that had imposed stricter checks and approval

requirements. "Once you permit manufacture, then advertisement of that product will be a natural business practice," said Justice BV Nagarathna while closing the case. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Union government, argued that an existing legal framework already prohibits false medical claims, rendering Rule 170 unnecessary. "There is already a statutory mechanism in place... let us not doubt the intelligence of the common man," he said. Rule 170 had required pre-approval for traditional medicine advertisements. During the proceedings, Advocate Pranav Sachdeva, representing an intervenor, urged maintaining the status quo of the Supreme Court's earlier stay against the Ministry of AYUSH's notification omitting Rule 170. Sachdeva warned about the dangers of misleading ads, noting, "There are large number of people who are gullible... In Ayurveda you can come up and say this is the cure of this disease, people will be lured." Senior



Advocate Shadan Farasat, serving as Amicus Curiae, noted that since the stay in August 2024 "a lot has happened since the 27th August, 2024 order (imposing the stay)," reported Bar and Bench. "The States have been implementing the rule," he further said. Despite this, the notification deleting Rule 170 indicated a

shift towards aligning traditional medicines with allopathy practices. The division's decision to close contempt proceedings against Patanjali's promoters, Baba Ramdev and Acharya Balkrishna, following their repeated apologies, allowed the company to continue operations without further legal obstruction. While Rule 170 was aimed at curbing exaggerated claims, its removal suggests a leaning towards less restrictive advertising practices. This change has sparked debates around the balance between consumer protection and business freedom. In its final order, the top court noted that the relief sought had been achieved, and the case does not require further consideration. "It is not in dispute that the relief sought for has been achieved in as much as by various orders... Hence the writ petition stands disposed," the order stated. The Court emphasised the importance of maintaining a balance between consumer protection and business practices, highlighting the need for vigilance in advertising standards.

Tricolour lights, flags and floral boards brighten Delhi's Lutyens' landmarks, streets

Agency New Delhi. The New Delhi Municipal Council marked the 79th Independence Day by illuminating key landmarks and streets across the city with tricolour lights, flags and floral displays. Around 37,500 bulbs lit up Palika Kendra, Convention Centre, NDCC Building, Connaught Place, Chandralok Building, Lok Nayak Bhawan and other prominent sites. The civic body also installed 2,600 national flags on electric poles along avenue roads and set up 36 floral boards and fountains greeting citizens. At the NDMC headquarters, chairperson Keshav Chandra hoisted the national flag in the presence of vice-chairman Kuljeet Singh Chahal, council member Anil Valmiki, secretary Tariq Thomas, senior officials, school students and teachers. Security and fire personnel gave a guard of honour before the ceremony. In his address, Chandra paid tribute to freedom fighters and members of the armed and paramilitary forces who laid down their lives for the nation. He recounted the story of Kanaklata Barua, a teenage freedom fighter killed while hoisting the tricolour against British rule, saying her sacrifice showed that "the courage of patriotism is limitless." He also praised the armed forces' bravery during "Operation Sindoor", noting the role of scientists and engineers in the country's defence. "Freedom not only gives us rights but also makes us responsible towards our duties," he said, urging citizens and NDMC staff to make the council the best in the country.

Man, 40, killed on spot as SUV rams bike from behind in Delhi, driver flees



Agency New Delhi. A 40-year-old man was killed when an SUV collided with his motorcycle in West Delhi's Moti Nagar area, local police said on Saturday. The incident occurred late on Friday night. The victim's younger brother said the incident occurred while Bechu Lal was on his way to the hospital. He had parked his bike behind a truck near a signal when a Thar came from behind and hit him, killing him on the spot. After hitting the bike, the Thar mounted the footpath, collided with an electric pole, moved ahead, and then hit a stone seat built along the roadside wall. The vehicle finally came to a stop a little further ahead. Police are examining nearby CCTV footage to determine the speed of the Thar. The driver of the SUV fled the scene following the incident. "The driver of the Thar fled immediately after the incident. Legal action is being taken, and multiple teams have been formed to apprehend him," a senior police official told PTI. Police have registered a case and are reviewing CCTV footage. Officials have informed the victim's family and sent the body for post-mortem. Earlier this month, a pedestrian was killed, and another was injured after being run over by a Thar near the Gyarah Murti landmark in the Chanakyapuri area.

Yamuna above danger mark, alert sounded in Delhi



Agency New Delhi. Large volumes of water released upstream have set the Yamuna on an upward course in Delhi, triggering precautionary measures as authorities brace for a possible flood-like situation. At 1 pm on Friday, the river touched 204.65 metres at the Old Railway Bridge (ORB), an official gauge site, breaching the city's warning threshold of 204.50 metres, officials said. The warning mark for the city is 204.50 metres, a threshold Friday's 1 pm reading crossed comfortably. "The reason for the increase in level is mostly due to the high volumes of water released from the Wazirabad and Hathnikund barrage every hour," an official from the central flood room said. The Hathnikund barrage is releasing around 47,024 cusecs of water, and Wazirabad is releasing 35,130 cusecs of water every hour, the official added. On Thursday, the hourly discharge crossed a seasonal peak of 65,761 cusecs at 3 pm, the highest so far this year. Last week, on August 8, the water level had reached 205.15 meters after discharge from the Hathnikund barrage reached a peak of 561,729 cusecs. Agencies are on alert to monitor vulnerable stretches.

PM Modi to inaugurate UER-II, Delhi stretch of Dwarka Expressway on Sunday

PM Modi will inaugurate two major expressways improving connectivity to IGI Airport on Sunday. The projects aim to reduce travel time and ease traffic congestion across Delhi-NCR.

Agency New Delhi. Getting to Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport from Noida is set to get a lot easier. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Sunday inaugurate two major road projects: the Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II) and the Delhi section of the Dwarka Expressway. Together, the new stretches promise to significantly cut travel time from Noida to IGI Airport. The opening also gives commuters from western Delhi and NCR suburbs a smoother ride, easing congestion on the city's busy Ring Road.

Bakkarwala, Najafgarh and Dwarka. It also connects to major routes like Delhi-Chandigarh, Delhi-Rohtak, and Sonapat.

Alongside, PM Modi will unveil the 29-kilometre Delhi section of the Dwarka Expressway, stretching from the



The UER-II, a 76-kilometre corridor billed as Delhi's new "outer ring road," runs from Alipur to Mahipalpur near the airport. Built at a cost of about Rs 7,716 crore, the 4-to-6 lane highway links Mundka,

Kherki Daula toll plaza to Shiv Murti at Mahipalpur. The Gurugram section was inaugurated back in March 2024. Together, the two corridors are expected

to make traffic flow toward the airport, Gurugram and Jaipur much smoother. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini and other BJP leaders are expected to be present at the event. Officials said the access-controlled expressways will allow uninterrupted travel and help take load off Delhi's arterial roads. The Rs 9,000 crore Dwarka Expressway was built in four packages, while the UER-II was completed in five. According to the National Highways Authority of India, UER-II was planned under the Delhi Master Plan 2021 and spans 54 kilometres in Delhi and about 21 kilometres in Haryana. The expressway features eight lanes, service roads, four multi-level interchanges and several underpasses.

CJI BR Gavai says Supreme Court not superior or inferior to HC

Agency New Delhi. CJI BR Gavai said on Friday that the Supreme Court collegium cannot dictate a high court collegium to recommend a particular name for judgeship, emphasising that both are constitutional courts and neither is superior to the other. The CJI was speaking at a function organised by the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) to celebrate the country's 79th Independence Day on Friday, where SCBA president Vikas Singh urged the Supreme Court collegium to also consider lawyers practising in the apex court for high court judgeships, irrespective of whether they have practised there. "Ultimately, even the Supreme Court Collegium can't dictate the high court collegium to recommend the names...



the SC is not a superior court to the HC," CJI Gavai said. Remembering those who sacrificed their lives for the country's independence, he added, "On this Independence Day, let us not only salute the flag, but also the spirit it represents — of liberty that refuses to be silenced, of equality that admits no

hierarchy, of fraternity that knows no walls." He said Independence Day was "not only a celebration, but also an act of remembrance" — of those whose courage lit the path to freedom before 1947, and whose vision must guide the present. He urged that India should be one where "no child is denied education because of her caste or poverty, no woman walks in fear, and no citizen is too small to be heard." Calling it a solemn duty, the CJI said judges and lawyers must not merely interpret and apply the law but also uphold and embody the Constitution's fundamental values. "We are entrusted with the responsibility to promote, protect, imbibe and defend liberty, equality and fraternity — the bedrock of our democracy," he added.

Centre Warns Of "Constitutional Chaos" After Timeline Order For Governors

The Supreme Court had in April prescribed a three-month deadline for the President and one month for Governors to decide on the bills passed by the legislature.

Agency New Delhi. The government has warned against imposing a timeline on the President and Governors for clearing bills, differing with an earlier Supreme Court order. A bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan had in April prescribed a three-month deadline for the President and one month for Governors to decide on the bills passed by the legislature. Such timelines would amount to an organ of the government usurping powers that are not vested in it, thereby upsetting the delicate separation of powers, the government said in a written submission to the top court, warning that it will lead to "constitutional chaos." "Even under its extraordinary powers vested in Article 142, the Supreme Court cannot amend the Constitution or defeat the intent of the Constitution makers, provided there are no such procedural mandates in the constitutional text," Solicitor General

Tushar Mehta said in his submission. Though there may be "some limited problems in implementation" of the assent process, these cannot justify "reducing the higher office of the Governor to a subordinate one," said Mr Mehta. He argued that the offices of the Governor and President are "politically complete" and represent "higher ideals of democratic governance". Any alleged lapses should be redressed through political and constitutional mechanisms, not through "unwarranted judicial" interventions, he said. Under Article 200 of the Constitution, the Governor can give assent to the bills presented to him by the legislature, withhold or reserve it for the consideration of the President. He can also send it back to the House for reconsideration, but if passed

again, the Governor shall not withhold assent. The Governor can also choose to reserve the bill for the President's consideration if it appears to be at odds with the Constitution, directive principles of state policy, or is of national importance. In its April 12 order in a case related to Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court had

sought to regulate this process and ordered that the Constitutional heads follow a timeline to clear the pending bills. It ordered, "We deem it appropriate to adopt the timeline prescribed by the Ministry of Home Affairs... and prescribe that the President is required to take a decision on the bills reserved for his consideration by the Governor within a period of three months from the date on which such reference is received." The judgment drew pushback, with President Droupadi Murmu raising queries to the Supreme Court over the constitutionality of such timelines. Under Article 143 of the Constitution, the President posed 14 questions to the top court, seeking its opinion on the powers of the President and Governors under Articles 200 and 201 in dealing with bills passed by the state legislatures.



NEWS BOX

Melania Trump raises plight of Ukrainian children in letter delivered to Putin



World. (Agency)

US President Donald Trump's wife, Melania Trump, raised the plight of children in Ukraine and Russia in a personal letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin, two White House officials said on Friday. President Trump hand-delivered the letter to Putin during their summit talks in Alaska, the officials told Reuters. Slovenian-born Melania Trump was not on the trip to Alaska. The officials would not divulge the contents of the letter other than to say it mentioned the abductions of children resulting from the war in Ukraine.

The existence of the letter was not previously reported. Russia's seizure of Ukrainian children has been a deeply sensitive one for Ukraine. Ukraine has called the abductions of tens of thousands of its children taken to Russia or Russian-occupied territory without the consent of family or guardians a war crime that meets the U.N. treaty definition of genocide.

Previously Moscow has said it has been protecting vulnerable children from a war zone. The United Nations Human Rights Office has said Russia has inflicted suffering on millions of Ukrainian children and violated their rights since its full scale invasion of Ukraine began in 2022. Trump and Putin met for nearly three hours at a US military base in Anchorage without reaching a ceasefire deal in the war in Ukraine.

Air Canada flight attendants go on strike



TORONTO. (Agency)

More than 10,000 Air Canada flight attendants went on strike after a deadline to reach a deal passed, the union confirmed early Saturday. Canadian Union of Public Employees spokesman Hugh Poulit confirmed the strike has started after no deal was reached. Air Canada has said all flights will be canceled for the duration of the work stoppage. Canada's largest airline has already canceled more than 620 flights, leaving travelers around the world stranded and scrambling during the peak summer travel season.

A bitter contract fight between Canada's largest airline and the union representing 10,000 of its flight attendants escalated Friday as the union turned down the airline's request to enter into government-directed arbitration, which would eliminate its right to strike and allow a third-party mediator to decide the terms of a new contract.

A cruel summer as record wildfires scorch Europe

World. (Agency)

Wildfires continue to burn across the south of Europe amid record-breaking summer heatwaves in many fire-prone regions. In some places, these fires have been exacerbated by wet spring months, which have helped vegetation growth capable of catching alight with ease during a dry summer.

Already, an area equivalent to 1.5 times the size of Luxembourg — roughly 438,568 hectares — has burned across Europe in 2025. That figure is almost three times the size of fire damage caused up to the same point in 2024. It comes as some parts of southern Europe suffer through multiple 40-degree (104 Fahrenheit) days, and prolonged heatwaves lasting a fortnight. The current summer has been described as the worst for wildfires in two decades.

Where are the fires burning? What is the situation right now?

"We're seeing extreme temperatures in large parts of Europe, records being broken of 40 degrees in many places," said Julie Berckmans, a climate scientist at the European Environmental Agency. "Southern France, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Belgium, Netherlands, UK, are all hitting high temperatures [and] massive wildfires in Spain, Portugal, France, Greece, Turkey, Albania." In Spain, those fires have burned through an area the size of London already.

Portugal is fighting its own fires, with around four thousand firefighters currently active across seven active sites. It has also been forced to request help from the European Union's firefighting forces.

An even greater number of firefighters has been mobilized in Greece, which is battling 20 blazes during this peak fire season. Deaths have occurred in Spain, Portugal, Montenegro and Italy from fires and heat-related events this summer.

It has been a severe fire season

Europe uses data from its Copernicus satellite fleet to monitor fire activity, and collates the data via the European Forest Fires Information System (EFFIS). A substantial amount of fire damage in 2025 has already occurred.

Red carpet, secret chat in The Beast: Trump came in roaring, Putin left laughing

Trump-Putin Alaska summit: Trump arrived for the summit roaring. He threatened Putin with 'severe consequences' over the Ukraine war. However, when the two leaders met, Trump's compulsive bluster was gone.

World. (Agency)

There was a chill in the air, with the temperature dropping to 9 degrees as US President Donald Trump and Russia's Vladimir Putin arrived in Alaska for talks on the Ukraine war. The world expected it to be a heated affair, especially after Trump said he "will walk" if the talks go badly. However, the unmistakable warmth in their greeting and the optics came out of the syllabus for the world media. Trump arrived for the summit roaring. He threatened Putin with "severe consequences" and more sanctions if there was no progress on a deal

to end the Ukraine war. However, when the two leaders met, Trump's compulsive bluster was gone. Putin received a hero's welcome as he stepped on American soil for the first time in years. After three hours, the meeting ended with no deal or even an agreement to pause the four-year-old Ukraine war.

THE OPENING SCENE

The opening scene was well choreographed. Putin, who was escorted into Alaska's Anchorage by four US fighter jets, received a red carpet welcome. As Putin strode towards Trump, the US President clapped for him thrice. Then came a warm handshake, which extended well beyond a few seconds, and friendly smiles. The duo also patted each other's elbows.

The leaders then walked shoulder to shoulder along the red carpet towards a makeshift podium that was created on the tarmac. Overhead, US F-22 fighter jets and a B-2 bomber, which was recently in action in Iran, flew in a show of force.

The two leaders shared the stage for a photo-

op with a blue backdrop behind them emblazoned with the words 'Pursuing Peace'.

Both seemed to be enjoying the setting and each other's company - a far cry from the tensions that had been building up over the last few weeks. So much so that questions shouted by reporters were ignored by both

question.

THE TWIST IN THE TALE

However, the script took a drastic turn from here on. Trump gestured to Putin that it was time to go and, much to the surprise of the media, the duo slipped into the backseat of 'The Beast' - the official limousine of the US President. It was not clear if the Putin-Trump ride was planned. NBC News reported that a car with a Moscow number plate was waiting on the tarmac, possibly for Putin.

The duo were then seen chatting through the darkened windows. As 'The Beast' drove off towards the official meeting venue, Putin had a beaming smile on his face, summing up the moment and giving the world a lasting image of the summit. The ride lasted at least 10 minutes, giving the chance to the leaders to have an unfiltered chat alone. The welcome revealed what Trump had at stake. The eccentric Republican entered office promising to end the Ukraine war in 24 hours. Those 24 hours stretched into six months without any sign of the promise he made.



of them. One reporter shouted, "President Putin, will you stop killing civilians?" The Russian President gave a befuddled look and gestured to his car, sarcastically suggesting that he couldn't hear the

Trump says Xi pledged no Taiwan invasion while he's US President

Washington. (Agency)

US President Donald Trump said on Friday that Chinese President Xi Jinping told him China would not invade Taiwan while Trump is in

office. Trump made the comments in an interview with Fox News, ahead of talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. "I will tell you, you know, you have a very similar thing with President Xi of China and Taiwan, but I don't believe there's any way it's going to happen as long as I'm here. We'll see," Trump said during an interview on Fox News' "Special Report."

"He told me, 'I will never do it as long as you're president.'" President Xi told me

that, and I said, 'Well, I appreciate that,' but he also said, 'But I am very patient, and China is very patient.'" Trump said. Trump and Xi held their first confirmed call of Trump's first



presidential term in June. Trump also said in April that Xi had called him but did not specify when that call took place.

China views Taiwan as its own territory and has vowed to "reunify" with the democratic and separately governed island, by force if necessary. Taiwan strongly objects to China's sovereignty claims. The Chinese Embassy in Washington on Friday described the topic of Taiwan as "the most important and sensitive issue" in China-US relations. "The US government should adhere to the one-China principle and the three US-China joint communiqués, handle Taiwan-related issues prudently, and earnestly safeguard China-US relations and peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait," embassy spokesperson Liu Pengyu said in a statement.

Although Washington is Taiwan's main arms supplier and international backer, the US - like most countries - has no formal diplomatic ties with the island.

Brazil announces 5.5bn package to counter Trump's tariffs

Brazil. (Agency)

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva announced a plan on Wednesday to support exporters who have been hit by high tariffs of up to 50% imposed by US President Donald Trump on several products from the country.

The plan provides credit of 20 billion reais (\$5.5 billion; €4.7 billion) to support the embattled exporters.

Other measures in the plan include postponing tax charges for businesses affected by the tariffs, while also incentivizing Brazilians to buy locally produced goods that would have otherwise been exported to the US.

"We cannot be scared, nervous and anxious when there is a crisis," Lula said. "A crisis is for us to create new things." Lula also said Trump has no good reasons for hitting Brazil with high tariffs.

What's behind Trump's tariffs on

Brazil?

While the Trump administration announced sweeping tariffs on many countries around the world, Brazil was ultimately singled out with some of the highest levies of up to 50%. Trump said the additional tariffs were a reaction to the legal situation of his ally, the far-



right populist former president, Jair Bolsonaro. Bolsonaro is currently under house arrest over allegations that he plotted a coup after losing the 2022 presidential election. Lula did not hold

back on the grounds for the tariffs, saying every time the US decides to "fight with someone," they paint their rivals as the devil. "Now they want to talk about human rights in Brazil... We have to look at what happens in the country that is accusing Brazil," Lula added, hinting at Trump's domestic policies.

The US president had cited "human rights abuses" by the left-wing government in support of his ally Bolsonaro.

Lula calls for negotiations with Washington

Lula responded to the claims, saying Brazil's judiciary is independent, with the country's Finance Minister Fernando Haddad saying Brazil is being "sanctioned for being more democratic than its aggressor." The Brazilian leader has so far refrained from imposing higher tariffs on American imports, saying,

Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla Joins Independence Day Celebrations In US

The event was graced by India's astronauts, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla-who recently returned from space mission-and Group Captain Prashanth Nair.

World. (Agency)

India's 79th Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic fervor at the Consulate General of India in Houston on Friday, with a large turnout from the Indian diaspora in the early hours, despite it being a workday. Consul General DC Manjunath

hoisted the national flag and read out the President of India's address, emphasizing India's unity, resilience, and progress. The celebrations also featured an exhibition on the history of the Tiranga as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, encouraging Indians to honor the national flag in their homes.

The event was graced by India's astronauts, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla-who recently returned from a space mission-and Group Captain Prashanth Nair, along with Ajay Singh, Press Secretary to the President of India, and Indian American Dr. Renu Khator, President of the University of Houston.

The astronauts, warmly welcomed by the gathering, took pictures and selfies with members of the diaspora, creating memorable moments for the

community. Other dignitaries included Katherine Ho, Regional Director of the Office of Foreign Missions, US State Department; representatives from the offices of Senators



John Cornyn and Ted Cruz; representatives of the Mayor of Houston and other precinct commissioners; and Council Member

Sanjay Singhal, on behalf of the Mayor of Sugar Land. A cultural programme showcased India's rich artistic heritage, featuring classical Odissi dance by senior dancers of the Mayor Dance Academy and a medley of patriotic songs by students of the Gandharva School of Music. Winners of a painting and essay competition, organized by the Consulate for children of the Indian community, were also felicitated.

Attendees expressed pride and joy in celebrating India's independence abroad. One community member said, "Joining the early-morning celebration with the astronauts and the diaspora fills us with immense pride. It's a moment we will always remember."

"The event reflected the vibrant spirit of the Indian community in Houston and underscored the importance of preserving cultural heritage while celebrating India's progress and global achievements."



NEWS BOX

Former Australia captain and coach Bob Simpson dies at 89



New Delhi. (Agency)

Former Australia captain Bob Simpson passed away on Saturday, August 16 at the age of 89. Simpson was an influential figure in Australian cricket and featured in 62 Tests for the Aussies before becoming their first full-time coach and helped with the re-emergence of the side during the late 1980s and 1990s.

When did Bob Simpson make his debut for the Australian cricket team?

Simpson made his debut in 1957 against South Africa and went on to score 4869 runs at an average of 46.81, which included 10 hundreds and 27 fifties. The former Aussie skipper came in as an all-rounder in the side and quickly established himself as an opening batter for Australia through the 1960s. Simpson was also a handy spinner, who picked up 71 wickets during his time in Tests and was also extremely reliable in slips. He would step away from the game in 1968 before making a sensational return in 1978 at the age of 41 to lead Australia again as many players had gone to take part in World Series cricket.

"Bob Simpson was one of the greats of Australian cricket and this is a sad day for anyone fortunate to have watched him play or who benefited from his wisdom," said Cricket Australia chairman Mike Baird.

"As a brilliant opening batter, incredible slips fielder and handy spin bowler, Bob was a mainstay of a very strong Australian team in the 1960s, and he became a leader across the game as Australian and New South Wales captain and as a coach.

"Bob's decision to come out of retirement to successfully lead the Australian team during the advent of World Series Cricket in 1977 was a wonderful service to the game, and his coaching set the foundation for a golden era for Australian cricket." "On behalf of Cricket Australia, I would like to express my warmest condolences to Bob's family, friends, teammates and all those touched by his vast contribution to cricket."

Badminton: How China's changing food habits has forced a shuttlecock crisis

New Delhi. (Agency)

The badminton world is in the middle of an unexpected crisis, a severe shortage of feather shuttlecocks. Across the globe, national associations are finding it increasingly difficult to acquire quality shuttles for their players. Those who have managed to get their hands on them are paying much higher than the usual rates.

Sources have told India Today that the Pullala Gopichand Academy in Hyderabad — home to some of India's finest players — has less than two weeks of shuttlecock reserves. In Europe, countries like France have raised similar concerns, with some even considering switching to alternatives in junior-level competitions. The crisis is serious enough to shake the very foundation of the sport. It's simple: no shuttles, no game.

China's Changing Food Habits

Secretary of the Badminton Association of India (BAI), Sanjay Mishra, confirmed to India Today that the shortage is real, and surprisingly, it has its roots in China's changing food preferences.

The world's most populous country is seeing a significant shift in dietary habits. The Chinese population is now favouring pork over what used to be traditional delicacies — duck and goose. This shift has led to a sharp drop in duck and goose consumption, and in turn, fewer birds are being reared by farmers. Since shuttlecock feathers are a byproduct of poultry processing, mostly duck feathers for regular shuttles and goose feathers for elite ones, the supply chain has taken a massive hit.

"Goose feathers are what the best shuttles are made of," Mishra explained. "Yonex is based in Japan, but their entire shuttle manufacturing happens in China. And people in China have reduced eating goose and duck — that's why the manufacturers are not getting any feathers." It takes 16 feathers to make a single shuttlecock, and the issue is compounded by the fact that they wear out quickly. A standard singles match might use up nearly two dozen shuttles.

Shuttles Impacting Global Badminton

The impact isn't limited to India. Mishra said the issue is affecting countries like France, Denmark and others across Europe. "I spoke to Yonex representatives a couple of days back. They said they would send the next lot after August 20," he said. "But they also said that they simply can't keep up with the demand any more."

Jasprit Bumrah must adjust, not Indian cricket: Sanjay Manjrekar on workload debate

Sanjay Manjrekar has claimed that Jasprit Bumrah shouldn't be considered as the first-choice pick for the Indian Test team if he cannot play more than two matches in a row. Bumrah played just three Tests during the England tour.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Sanjay Manjrekar has weighed in on the debate around Jasprit Bumrah's workload management and said that the star pacer should make adjustments for Indian cricket and not the other way around. Bumrah played just three out of the five matches against England during the recent Test series tour. The team management revealed before the series got underway that the 31-year-old would only feature in three matches.

Having played three out of the four games, many expected Bumrah to be a part of the decider at the Oval, but he was rested and then released from the squad. While India were able to level the series 2-2, Bumrah's workload management was something that fans and pundits couldn't agree on, with the likes of Mohammed Azharuddin and others being critical of the pacer. The latest to weigh in was Manjrekar, who said it was poetic justice that India won both the matches that Bumrah wasn't a part of and the selectors need to make hard choices with big-name players. Manjrekar said that no player is indispensable and that should be the method used to handle the star pacer.

"The game will always show us the mirror, however much we try and gloss over things. It was poetic justice that the two Tests India won were two matches Bumrah did not play." "This should embolden the Indian selectors to make some hard choices when it comes to big-name players. This series has been a great lesson to them and to us too, the two Tests victories India achieved did not feature Virat (Kohli),

(Cheteshwar) Pujara, Rohit (Sharma), (Mohammed) Shami and Bumrah too! It reminded us of the eternal truth of sport and life, no one, however great, is indispensable. And this is how India must handle Bumrah," wrote Manjrekar in column for Hindustan Times.



'Can't be your frontline pick if he can't more than two in a row'

Manjrekar further stated that Bumrah shouldn't be the frontline pick for India if he cannot play more than two Tests in a row. The former cricketer said he would prefer having young and hungry players in such a scenario. "If he cannot play more than two matches in a

row or sometimes even more than one, he must not be your frontline pick." "Players who are match fit, eager, keen to play and perform should be picked any day for me over a highly skilled player. It will motivate such enthusiastic players even more." "This is not an idealistic position to take, but it's the right one for the long-term health of a team sport," said Manjrekar. "In this series, Akash Deep & Siraj replicated the Bumrah impact in the two wins, of course, this is not likely become a pattern but it should give the selectors the guts to take hard calls on big-name players, just as they do with Kuldeep Yadav." "The true test of a great athlete is to still turn up when not 100 percent fit and deliver" Manjrekar said that longevity and durability will be imperative for Bumrah if he wants to serve India's Test cricket in the long run. The former cricketer also said that the pacer should look to raise his fitness bar by making some tough choices and working harder. "As for Bumrah, of whom I am a fan, if he really wants to serve Indian Test cricket, longevity and durability is an imperative for him, it's after all, the true test of a great athlete is to still turn up when not 100% fit and deliver."

Aiden Markram moves up to accommodate destructive Brevis and Stubbs in batting order

New Delhi. (Agency)

South Africa T20I captain Aiden Markram has been forced to open with the bat to accommodate more destructive players in the middle order. As the Proteas build for the 2026 T20 World Cup, Markram has given away his middle order position for the betterment of his team. Speaking ahead of the 3rd and final T20I against Australia, Markram said that his stint at the Lucknow Super Giants in the Indian Premier League 2025 helped him seamlessly transition to the opening spot in T20Is. The move was made by the team management to settle in players like Dewald Brevis and Tristan Stubbs, who are highly effective through the middle and death overs.

Brevis set the stage on fire in the 2nd T20I against Australia, hitting his maiden international hundred. Stubbs, on the other hand, has consistently performed well in T20s and is currently one of the most valuable limited-overs commodities in the



world.

"Going through our squads and the players that we've got around, we think probably that (opening) is the best fit," Markram told ESPNcricinfo ahead of the 3rd T20I of the series.

"We've got some guys in the middle order that are a lot more destructive than myself and we feel probably it's better off for myself and Rickels to be up top.

I did it a bit at the IPL and am starting to do it

now again at international cricket. It's an exciting role. It's always nice to bat in the powerplay and the focus is to get the team off to good starts."

In IPL 2025, Markram formed a destructive partnership with Mitchell Marsh in the opening spot. The duo ripped apart teams throughout the tournament, however, were not able to get their team through to the playoffs. In the partnership, Markram scored five fifties in 13 innings and scored at a strike rate of 148.82.

However, he has not been able to replicate those numbers for South Africa so far. Having said that, Markram's ability to play dynamically throughout the line-up and his handy off-spin might have persuaded head coach Shukri Conrad into pushing the captain to the top of the batting line-up, which provides a little bit of flexibility and space to construct an innings. Markram spoke about his bowling ahead of the 3rd T20I, stating that he goes with his gut feeling when it comes to delivering balls.

Jacob Bethell named England's youngest ever captain, set to lead side in Ireland T20Is



New Delhi. (Agency)

Young and upcoming all-rounder Jacob Bethell has been named the captain of the England team for their 3-match T20I tour of Ireland. Bethell, the stylish left-handed batter who bowls a little bit of spin, is set to become the youngest captain in the history of the country.

At just 21 years and 329 days of age, Bethell is set to lead the side in the absence of Harry Brook, who has been rested for the 3-match series against Ireland. The short tour starts on August 17 and concludes on August 21. England Squad For Ireland T20Is

Jacob Bethell ©, Rehan Ahmed. Sonny Baker, Tom Banton, Jos Buttler, Liam Dawson, Tom Hartley, Will Jacks, Saqib Mahmood, Jamie Overton, Matthew Potts, Adil Rashid, Phil Salt, Luke Wood. Once Bethell comes out to captain England on August 17, he will become the youngest to lead his country by a considerable margin. In the modern era, players like Sir Alastair Cook, Eoin Morgan and Jos Buttler were handed captaincy quite early in their career, but all three of them were at least over the age of 24. In that list, Cook was the youngest to lead the side, when he took over the captaincy aged 24 years and 325 days.

England men's selector Luke Wright showered praise on Bethell, stating that he has been a leader in the side and impressed the management. The show of trust in Bethell is aimed at giving him an opportunity to develop his skills.

"Jacob Bethell has impressed with his leadership qualities ever since he has been with the England squads and the series against Ireland will provide him with the opportunity to further develop those skills on the international stage," England men's selector Luke Wright said in a statement shared via England and Wales Cricket Board. Bethell has an experience of only 13 T20Is, where he has scored 281 runs and taken 4 wickets. He has played in the Indian Premier League as well, for the Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

Cincinnati Open: Elena Rybakina dumps out Aryna Sabalenka, Carlos Alcaraz into semis

New Delhi. (Agency)

Elena Rybakina pulled off a stunning result as she defeated defending champion Aryna Sabalenka to make it to the semi-finals of the Cincinnati Open on Friday, August 15.

Carlos Alcaraz survived a second-set blip against Andrey Rublev to make it to the final four stage. Rybakina secured her seventh career win over a top-ranked player, setting up a mouth-watering clash against Iga Swiatek in what will be a battle of Wimbledon champions. The 26-year-old produced 11 aces throughout the match as she got 81 percent of her points on her first serve to secure a 6-1, 6-4 win on Friday. Rybakina also saved all five break points against Sabalenka to secure her fifth career win against the Belarusian star



Gauff in straight sets with a score of 2-6 6-4 6-3 to make it to the final four. Paolini will face Veronika Kudermetova, who defeated

Varvara Gracheva in convincing fashion to make it to the semis.

Alcaraz forced to dig deep

Alcaraz was forced to battle hard to secure a 6-3, 4-6, 7-5 victory over Rublev to make it to the semi-finals. The Spaniard was far from his best as he committed 15 unforced errors and three double faults in the decider, but was able to secure his only match point thanks to a double fault from Rublev. Next up for Alcaraz is Alexander Zverev, who defeated Ben Shelton to make it to the final four with a score of 6-2, 6-2. However, the German was facing some fitness issues during the match as he had to call for the doctor in the second set. The other semi-final will see World No.1 Jannik Sinner face off against the surprise package of the tournament so far, French qualifier Terence Atmane.

Premier League: Can Mikel Arteta finally crack the code and lead Arsenal to glory?

After years of near-misses, Mikel Arteta's Arsenal enter 2025-26 with new signings, depth, and belief. Is this the year they win it all? The Gunners are under pressure to deliver silverware, but their squad will once again be put to the test.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Manchester City for two years, the Gunners surrendered the Premier League crown to Liverpool in the 2024-25 season. Yet, on the European stage, they showed their mettle — knocking out Real Madrid in the Champions League quarter-finals before falling to eventual winners Paris Saint-Germain. Arteta's belief remains unshaken, buoyed by last season's positives. But the question lingers: can Arsenal finally cross the finish line, or will they fall short yet again?

TRANSFERS SIGNAL WINNING INTENT

The Arsenal hierarchy have backed Mikel Arteta once again, strengthening key areas ahead of the new season. Goalscoring had been a concern, with Bukayo Saka shouldering much of the burden, but the arrival of Viktor Gyökeres from Sporting CP promises to ease that load in the final third.

From their arch-rivals Chelsea came Noni



Madueke — a deal that raised eyebrows over its price tag, yet one that could prove invaluable if the winger fulfils his potential. In midfield, the departure of Thomas Partey paved the way for Martin Zubimendi from Real Sociedad and Christian Norgaard, whose assured pre-season

displays have already stirred optimism. Defensive depth was also addressed with the signing of Valencia's Cristhian Mosquera, a physical presence who adds steel to the back line.

TACTICS, DEPTH AND THE ROAD AHEAD

With a balanced mix of youth and experience across the pitch, Arsenal appear better equipped than ever. The real question, however, is whether they can maintain that level over the long haul. With several new faces in the squad, Mikel Arteta's tactical acumen will be tested as he looks to mould them into a well-oiled unit. Martin Zubimendi's arrival adds a new dimension to the midfield pivot alongside Declan Rice — a pairing that could finally unlock the possession-based style Arteta has long envisioned. In attack, the left wing remains a talking point. Gabriel Martinelli has yet to consistently hit the heights expected of him, which could open the door for Noni Madueke — or even Gabriel Jesus, though that would be a surprise — to occupy the role.

Shruti Haasan

Stopped By Theatre Security During Coolie FDFS: 'I'm The Heroine, Sir'

Actor Shruti Haasan had a rather amusing start to the first day, first show of Coolie in Chennai. The actress, who stars in Lokesh Kanagaraj's latest directorial, was stopped by an overzealous security guard at the entrance of the theatre and had to convince him that she was indeed part of the film. The funny moment was captured by Shruti's friend, rapper Yung Raja, who later shared it on Instagram stories. The video quickly spread across social media, delighting fans and theatre owners alike.

Shruti Pleads With Guard: 'I'm the Heroine, Sir'

In the viral clip, Shruti is seen sitting in a car with friends on her way to catch Coolie in Chennai. As they attempted to enter the venue, a security guard stopped them, seemingly unaware of who she was. Shruti responded with laughter, politely telling him, "I'm in the movie. Please allow me, anna (brother). I am the heroine, sir," leaving everyone around her in splits. The



guard eventually allowed her entry after the humorous exchange. Vettri Theatres proprietor Rakesh Gowthaman also reshared the video on X (formerly Twitter), calling the moment a result of his staff's 'overperforming' duties. He wrote, "My man Raayal over performed his duty. Hilarious moment. Thanks for being with us @shrutihaasan mam... Hope you enjoyed the show!!! #CoolieFDFS in #Vettri." Fans loved Shruti's lightheartedness in the situation. One user commented, "I love the way she calls Sir, respect towards people." Another quipped, "Shruti Haasan - Heroine X Audience ☑️." Many others noted how endearing it was that she addressed the guard respectfully despite the confusion.

Coolie's Mega Release

In Coolie, Shruti plays Preethi alongside an ensemble cast featuring Rajinikanth, Nagarjuna, Soubin Shahir, Sathyaraj, Upendra, and Aamir Khan. Produced by Sun Pictures, the film features music composed by Anirudh Ravichander. Released on August 14, the Rajinikanth-starrer clashed with Ayan Mukerji's War 2 at the box office. Despite the competition, Coolie made an impressive ₹150 crore worldwide on its opening day, cementing its status as a blockbuster.



Malaika Arora REVEALS How Kareena And Karisma Kapoor Became Part Of Her Inner Circle: 'It Was Actually...'



Malaika Arora recently opened up about the origin of her now-famous friendship with Kareena Kapoor Khan and Karisma Kapoor, revealing that it all began thanks to her sister, Amrita Arora. Speaking to Pinkvilla, Malaika recalled how Amrita and Kareena first connected during their early years in the industry. "It was actually my sister. Amu (Amrita Arora) and Bebo (Kareena Kapoor), they were very good friends. They did films together. They have known each other... Back in the day, they had met and connected through common friends. They figured that there was a lot of commonality dono ke beech mei (between them)," Malaika shared. From there, the bond only grew stronger. "Uske baad unhone kuch films bhi kiye saath mai (They did some films together). I think their friendship just got stronger and stronger. Then both the sisters came in and became part of the two of them. Then we all started. It's literally like sister-sister bonding that happened over there," she explained. When talking about what keeps their friendship alive, Malaika highlighted shared values and similar life experiences. "We have laughed, we have cried, fought, travelled. Food is a huge factor that binds us. The other thing is, I think we are all very similar. We come from very similar ways of upbringing... Similar backgrounds of growing up, parents. I think that is also what got us together... Two girls, sisters, sisterhood, that kind of bonding."

While they don't get into major fights, Malaika admitted that occasional disagreements are inevitable. However, they're usually over trivial matters. "Somebody may not have said something, or somebody must have forgotten something, and then you bring it up. Those kind of things. Very very silly or trivial things," she noted. What truly defines their relationship, though, is their ability to support one another during difficult times. "My family, we went through a tough time; her (Kareena Kapoor) family went through a tough time. That's what it is. If you are there in tough times with each other, I think that's what matters the most. I think everything else doesn't even compare," Malaika emphasised.

When Rashmika Mandanna Turned Bride For Vijay Deverakonda In Geetha Govindam; See BTS Pics



Rashmika Mandanna, who has an exciting line-up of projects in both South and Bollywood, is celebrating seven years of Geetha Govindam. The 2018 film, which stars her rumoured boyfriend Vijay Deverakonda as the male lead, holds a special place in her life as it was one of her early successes in the film industry.

Taking to Instagram, Rashmika shared a heartfelt post along with behind-the-scenes pictures from Geetha Govindam shoot. In one of the pictures, the actress was seen dressed as a bride for Vijay. "I can't believe I still have all these pictures from 7 years ago. Geetha Govindam will always, ALWAYS be the most special film. I was just remembering everyone who was involved in this film making and it's been faaaaar too long since we've all met.. but I hope they are doing super well.. I can't believe it's been 7 years already but happy 7 Geetha Govindam," she wrote. Take a look at her photos here:

Rashmika Mandanna and Vijay Deverakonda have never admitted to being in a relationship. However, every now and then they are in the news for dating or wedding rumours. Recently, the Liger actor was asked about it. While Vijay did not confirm or deny dating Rashmika, he confirmed that he wants to marry someday. "I'll for sure," he told Filmfare, before adding, "Currently not looking for a life partner." When the host teased if Rashmika fit the bill, the actor replied, "Any good woman with a good heart fits the bill."

However, Vijay talked about working with Rashmika and admitted that they must do more films together. "I haven't done enough movies with Rashmika. I should do more. She is a great actress. She is a beautiful woman. So chemistry shouldn't be a problem," he said.

Meanwhile, Geetha Govindam, which released in 2018 co-starring Vijay Deverakonda, was a massive success at the box office and cemented Rashmika's place as one of the leading stars in Telugu cinema. The on-screen chemistry between Rashmika and Vijay became a fan favourite, and the film's songs and dialogues continue to enjoy popularity even years later.

Armaan Malik's

Second Wife Kritika Malik Announces Pregnancy Amid Court Summons



Armaan Malik's second wife, Kritika Malik, has announced that she is expecting her second child with the YouTuber. Recently, Kritika, who was also the Bigg Boss OTT 3 finalist, took to her Instagram handle and dropped a series of pictures in which she was seen holding a pregnancy test kit in her hands. She was also smiling as Armaan's first wife, Payal, also joined her to pose for the camera. In the caption of her post, Kritika wrote, "Ghar Mai khushiyaan aane vale hai."

Pregnancy Announcement Amid Court Summons

Kritika Malik's pregnancy announcement comes days after a Patiala district court issued summons to Armaan and both his wives. The court recently issued notices to the three and asked them to appear on September 2. The summons were issued after a petition was filed by Davinder Rajput, who accused Malik of violating the Hindu Marriage Act and claimed that the YouTuber has not two but four wives. As per the Hindu Marriage Act, a person who practices Hinduism is allowed only one marriage at a time.

A Look At Armaan Malik's Two Marriages

Armaan Malik married Payal in 2011 and later welcomed a son named

Chirayu Malik. Six years later, in 2018, Armaan married Payal's best friend, Kritika, without legally ending his first marriage. They also have a son named Zaid.

The three grabbed everyone's attention after they participated in Bigg Boss OTT in 2024. While Payal was the first one to get eliminated, Armaan walked out of the show during the finale week. Kritika was one of the finalists on Bigg Boss OTT 3. The three faced hatred for their participation in the



controversial reality show and were accused of promoting polygamy. Therefore, after her eviction, Payal had expressed her desire to divorce Armaan. "I am done with the drama and the hate. As long as it was about me, I was okay but now the hate is coming to my kids. This is so shocking and disgusting. I have decided to part ways with Armaan for the same reason. He can stay with Kritika while I'll take care of the kids," she said in one of her vlogs.

