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# The Researchers'

## NEWS BOX

### North Korean hackers steal military secrets for weapons programme: US, allies

**London.** North Korean hackers have conducted a global cyber espionage campaign to try to steal classified military secrets to support Pyongyang's banned nuclear weapons programme, the United States, Britain and South Korea said in a joint advisory on Thursday. The hackers, dubbed Anadriel or APT45 by cybersecurity researchers, have targeted or breached computer systems at a broad variety of defence or engineering firms, including manufacturers of tanks, submarines, naval vessels, fighter aircraft, and missile and radar systems, the advisory said. "The authoring agencies believe the group and the cyber techniques remain an ongoing threat to various industry sectors worldwide, including but not limited to entities in their respective countries, as well as in Japan and India", the advisory said. It was co-authored by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the US National Security Agency (NSA) and cyber agencies, Britain's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), and South Korea's National Intelligence Service (NIS).

"The global cyber espionage operation that we have exposed today shows the lengths that DPRK state-sponsored actors are willing to go to pursue their military and nuclear programmes," said Paul Chichester at the NCSC, a part of Britain's GCHQ spy agency.

Internationally isolated North Korea, or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), has a long history of using covert hacking teams to steal sensitive military information. In August last year, Reuters exclusively reported that one elite group of North Korean hackers had successfully breached systems at NPO Mashinostroyeniya, a rocket design bureau based in Reutov, a small town on the outskirts of Moscow. As was the case with that hack, APT45 - a part of North Korea's Reconnaissance General Bureau intelligence agency - used common phishing techniques and computer exploits to trick officials at the firms they were targeting into giving away access to their internal computer systems, Thursday's advisory said.

### Mexican drug lord 'El Mayo', leader of Sinaloa cartel, arrested in US

**UPDATED.** Mexican drug lord Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada and the son of his former partner, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, were arrested in El Paso, Texas, on Thursday, the US Justice Department said. "The Justice Department has taken into custody two additional alleged leaders of the Sinaloa Cartel, one of the most violent and powerful drug trafficking organizations in the world," the department said in a statement. Zambada and Joaquin Guzman Lopez, the son of El Chapo, face multiple charges in the US "for heading the Cartel's criminal operations, including its deadly fentanyl manufacturing and trafficking networks," the statement said. The arrest of Guzman Lopez was first reported by Reuters, ahead of the Justice Department statement. Two U.S. officials told Reuters that Zambada and Guzman Lopez were detained after landing in a private plane. Zambada is one of the most consequential traffickers in Mexico's history and co-founded the Sinaloa Cartel with El Chapo, who was extradited to the United States in 2017 and is serving a life sentence in a maximum security prison.

After El Chapo's extradition, his criminal empire was inherited by four of his sons -- known as Los Chapitos, or Little Chapos -- who took over his faction of the cartel and became some of the biggest exporters of fentanyl to the United States. El Mayo and Los Chapitos have had a fractious relationship since El Chapo's extradition, and the arrests of the two traffickers may trigger instability or even violence in Mexico. US federal prosecutors in February charged Zambada with conspiracy to manufacture and distribute fentanyl, which the Drug Enforcement Administration says is the leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of 18 and 45.

### Nearly 300,000 displaced in eastern China as Typhoon Gaemi hits

**world.** Authorities evacuated nearly 300,000 people and suspended public transport across eastern China on Friday due to Typhoon Gaemi, which brought torrential rains that have already caused five deaths in Taiwan. Gaemi, the strongest typhoon to hit Taiwan in eight years, made landfall on Thursday, flooding parts of the island's second largest city. Typhoon also intensified seasonal rains in the Philippines on its way to Taiwan, triggering floods and landslides that resulted in 20 deaths. A tanker carrying 1.4 million liters of oil sank off Manila due to the severe weather conditions, prompting authorities to act swiftly to contain a potential fuel spill. By the time Typhoon Gaemi reached China's eastern Fujian province shortly before 8:00pm local time (1200 GMT) on Thursday, it had already weakened, according to state media. China has been experiencing a summer of extreme weather. Heavy rains have lashed the eastern and southern parts of the country, while the northern regions have faced successive heatwaves. These conditions are believed to be exacerbated by climate change, with China being the largest emitter of greenhouse gases. Chinese authorities warned that Typhoon Gaemi would bring torrential rains capable of causing significant flooding. More than 290,000 people were relocated in Fujian province, and public transport, offices, schools, and markets were shut down in various cities to prepare for the storm. In neighboring Zhejiang province, state broadcaster CCTV showed footage on Friday of streets turned into rivers and roads blocked by fallen trees. Bicycles were seen struggling through knee-high waters. Wenzhou city, which has a population of nine million, issued its highest warning for rainstorms and evacuated nearly 7,000 people as a precaution.

State media reported that Typhoon Gaemi would bring heavy rainfall to central Jiangxi and Henan provinces. In Guangdong province, the most populous in China, some passenger train services were suspended on Friday in anticipation of the typhoon's arrival.

CCTV cited the official China Weather Network, saying, that the typhoon was moving northwestward at about 20 kilometers per hour and was expected to "gradually weaken" as it traveled toward Jiangxi by late Friday afternoon. As of now, no deaths or injuries have been reported in China due to the typhoon. However, the northwestern province of Gansu experienced heavy rains this week, resulting in one death and three missing persons.

## Bill introduced in US Congress to strengthen partnership ties with India

**Washington.** US Senator Marco Rubio on Thursday introduced a bill in the Congress which proposes to treat India on par with its allies like as Japan, Israel, Korea and NATO allies regarding technology transfers, support India in its response to growing threats to its territorial integrity and bar Pakistan from receiving security assistance if it is found to have sponsored terrorism against India. "Communist China continues to aggressively expand its domain in the Indo-Pacific region, all while it seeks to impede the sovereignty and autonomy of our regional partners. It's crucial for the U.S. to continue its support in countering these malicious tactics. India, along with other nations in the region, is not alone," Rubio said after he introduced the U.S.-India Defense Cooperation Act in the Senate. Given the short timeline of a bitterly divided Congress in an election year, the bill is unlikely to make much headway, but might be reintroduced in the next Congress given that there is a bipartisan level of support on India-US

relationship. The bill notes that the US-India partnership is vital to countering influences from Communist China. In order to strengthen this partnership, it is essential to enhance our strategic diplomatic, economic, and military relationship with New Delhi, it asserts.

Among other things, the bill would set a Statement of Policy that the US will support India in its response to growing threats to its territorial integrity, provide necessary security assistance to India to deter adversaries, and cooperate with India with respect to defense, civil space, technology, medicine and economic investments. When passed into law, it would provide a limited exemption for India from CAATSA sanctions for purchases of Russian equipment that are currently used by the Indian military and set a sense of Congress that expeditious consideration of certifications of letters of offer to sell



defense articles, defense services, design and construction services, and major defense equipment to India is consistent with US interests and it is in the interest of peace and stability India to have the capabilities needed to deter threats. It proposes to treat India as if it were of the same status as the US allies such as Japan, Israel, Korea, and NATO allies regarding

technology transfers; authorize the Secretary of State to enter into a memorandum of understanding with India to increase military cooperation; expedite excess defense articles to India for two years and grant India the same status as other allies; and expand International Military Education and Training Cooperation with New Delhi.

It requires a report to Congress on Pakistan's use of offensive force, including through terrorism and proxy groups, against India; and bar Pakistan from receiving security assistance if it is found to have sponsored terrorism against India. This is for the first time such an India-centric bill has been introduced in the US Congress that proposes to put India at the same level of that of its treaty ally, exempt it from CAATSA sanctions, and imposes sanctions on Pakistan for promoting terrorism in India.

## Typhoon Gaemi slams China after Taiwan, thousands evacuated, floods feared

**Beijing.** Typhoon Gaemi roared into southeastern China on Thursday after churning across the Taiwan Strait, prompting warnings of swelling rivers, flash floods and waterlogging in cities and provinces that were hit by extreme rains just several weeks ago. Gaemi, the third and most powerful typhoon to hit China's eastern seaboard this year, made landfall in Fujian province at 7:50 p.m. (1150 GMT) after whipping Taiwan with gusts of up to 227 kph (141 mph), some of the strongest winds recorded in the Western Pacific Ocean. Despite slightly weakening since its landfall in Fujian's Putian, a city of over 3 million, Gaemi and its giant cloud-bands are forecast to unleash intense rainfall in at least 10 Chinese provinces in the coming days.

The arrival of Gaemi has drawn comparisons with Typhoon Doksuri last year, which triggered historic flooding as far north as Beijing and caused nationwide losses of nearly \$30 billion. Authorities said water levels in the lower reaches of the Yangtze River as well as the vast freshwater lakes of Poyang and Dongting in central China could rise, returning to dangerous



levels seen in early July after intense summer rains. Due to its high vapour content, Beijing cautioned that Gaemi could spawn strong rainfall in the Chinese capital, about 2,000 km (1,242 miles) north of Putian, even as the storm weakens into a tropical depression. Gaemi's rains could cause flash floods and waterlogging, particularly in parts of northern China where the soil remains saturated after being lashed by a passing system of storms earlier this week, authorities warned. In Taiwan, Gaemi killed three people, triggered flooding and sank a freighter after the strongest typhoon to hit the island in eight years made landfall on Wednesday night. Some parts of southern Taiwan are expected

to have recorded rainfall of 2,200 mm (87 inches) since Tuesday. The storm cut power to around half a million households, though most are now back online, utility Taipower said.

Apart from the three fatalities, 380 were injured by the typhoon in Taiwan, the government said. Taiwan's fire department said a Tanzania-flagged freighter with nine Myanmar nationals on board had sunk off the coast of the southern port city of Kaohsiung. Three of them have since been found alive on the shoreline, Taiwan's coast guard said. Taiwanese television stations showed pictures of flooded streets in cities and counties across the island. Li Li-chuan, 55, saw the roof of her restaurant blow off in the northeastern Taiwanese city of Suao. "I was frightened," she told Reuters. "It was the strongest in years. I was worried that the roof would hit other people." Offices and schools as well as the financial markets closed for a second day on Thursday, while trains were stopped until 3 p.m. (0700 GMT) and all domestic flights and 195 international flights were cancelled.

## UN rights chief urges probe of Bangladesh protest crackdown

**GENEVA.** The UN rights chief called Thursday on Bangladesh to urgently disclose the details of last week's crackdown on protests amid accounts of "horrific violence", calling for "an impartial, independent and transparent investigation". "We understand that many people were subjected to violent attacks by groups reportedly affiliated with the Government, and no effort was made to protect them," Volker Turk said in a statement.

Last week's violence killed at least 193 people including several police officers, according to an AFP count of victims reported by police and hospitals, in one of the biggest upheavals of Bangladesh's 15-year tenure. The unrest was sparked by protests against a public jobs quota scheme that critics say gives preference to allies of Hasina's ruling party. Thousands of troops are still patrolling cities and a nationwide internet shutdown remains largely in effect, but clashes have subsided since

protest leaders announced a temporary halt to new demonstrations.

Turk's statement lamented reports that



some of the more than 1,000 injured in last week's crackdown were denied medical care, while many people remained missing. "At least two journalists were reportedly killed and scores of others injured. Hundreds of people were also reportedly arrested, including opposition figures," the statement said. The government, it said, "must provide the details of those

killed, injured, or detained for the benefit of their families". The UN high commissioner for human rights also called on the government to restore full internet access to allow people, including journalists, to communicate freely. "Blunt measures such as a blanket deliberate internet shutdown for a prolonged period contravene international law, affecting States' obligations to respect freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly," he said.

This also breached "a wide range of other rights, including freedom of association and of movement, the rights to health and education, and a number of economic rights," Turk said.

"Internet shutdowns can also reduce public scrutiny and knowledge of conduct of law enforcement agencies, and so risk heightening impunity for their actions," he warned.

### Joe Biden reiterated in their Oval Office meeting his calls for Israel and Hamas to quickly agree to a cease-fire deal that would bring home the remaining hostages.

**Washington.** Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited the White House Thursday to discuss the war in Gaza -- and the possibility of securing a cease-fire deal -- with President Joe Biden and likely Democratic nominee Vice President Kamala Harris. Netanyahu's first White House visit since 2020 comes at a time of growing pressure in Israel and the U.S. to

find an endgame to the nine-month war that's left more than 39,000 dead in Gaza and some 1,200 dead in Israel. Dozens of Israeli hostages are still languishing in Hamas captivity. Biden reiterated in their Oval Office meeting his calls for Israel and Hamas to quickly agree to a cease-fire deal that would bring home the remaining hostages, according to White House national security spokesman John Kirby. White House officials say the negotiations are in the closing stages, but there are issues that need to be resolved. "The gaps are closable," Kirby said. He added, "But it's going to require, as it always does, some leadership, some compromise." Harris is scheduled to meet separately on Thursday with Netanyahu. She is also expected to press him on securing a deal to release the hostages kidnapped during Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on Israel that launched the war.

Netanyahu, last at the White House when former President Donald Trump was in



office, is headed to Florida on Friday to meet with the Republican presidential nominee. The conservative Likud Party leader Netanyahu and centrist Democrat Biden have had ups-and-downs over the years. Netanyahu, in what will likely be his last White House meeting with Biden, reflected on the roughly 40 years they've known each other and thanked the president for his service. "From a proud Jewish Zionist to a proud Irish American Zionist, I want to thank you for 50 years of public service and 50 years of support for the state of Israel," Netanyahu told Biden

at the start of their meeting. A U.S.-backed proposal to release remaining hostages in Gaza over three phases is something that would be a legacy-affirming achievement for Biden, who abandoned his reelection bid and endorsed Harris. It could also be a boon for Harris in her bid to succeed him.

Following their talks, Biden and Netanyahu met with the families of American hostages. For Harris, the meeting with Netanyahu is an opportunity to demonstrate that she has the mettle to serve as commander in chief. She's being scrutinized by those on the political left who say Biden hasn't done enough to force Netanyahu to end the war and by Republicans looking to brand her as insufficient in her support for Israel. A senior administration official, who briefed reporters on the condition of anonymity under ground rules set by the White House, said there is "no daylight between the president and vice president.

### Kamala Harris slams 'hate-fueled rhetoric' as US sees anti-Netanyahu protests

US Vice President Kamala Harris has joined leaders from both Democratic and Republican parties in condemning protesters who burned American flags and sprayed pro-Hamas graffiti outside Washington's Union Station on Wednesday. The protests took place as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed Congress.

Harris, who is the presumed presidential candidate of the Democrats, described the protests as "unpatriotic and abhorrent." On Wednesday, demonstrators marched near the US Capitol building, protesting US military aid to Israel during its conflict with Hamas terrorists in Gaza. Following Netanyahu's speech, some protesters gathered at Union Station, where they burned American flags and spray-painted messages such as "Hamas is coming" and "Free Gaza" on a prominent monument. Harris issued a statement on Thursday, strongly condemning any individuals associating with Hamas.

"I condemn any individuals associating with the brutal terrorist organization Hamas, which has vowed to annihilate the State of Israel and kill Jews. Pro-Hamas graffiti and rhetoric is abhorrent



and we will not tolerate it in our nation," Harris said.

She further slammed the burning of the US flag.

"I condemn the burning of the American flag. That flag is a symbol of our highest ideals as a nation and represents the promise of America. It should never be desecrated in that way," she stated.

During Wednesday's protests, prior to the events at Union Station, police used pepper spray on some of the thousands of demonstrators and made several arrests. In her statement, Harris reiterated her support for the right to peaceful protest but added that "Antisemitism, hate, and violence of any kind have no place in our nation." The protests against Netanyahu, however, continued for the second day. After the Capitol, the Gaza war protestors gathered outside the White House and raised slogans against Netanyahu.

As per a report by the news agency Associated Press, the protesters chanted, "Arrest Netanyahu," and brought in an effigy of Netanyahu with blood on its hands and wearing an orange jumpsuit.

Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met President Joe Biden at the White House on Thursday. Netanyahu is also scheduled to meet with Vice President Kamala Harris later.



## Stolen Indian Artifacts: India, US Sign Cultural Property Agreement To Repatriate

**RNS I New Delhi:** India and the United States have today formalized a Cultural Property Agreement aimed at repatriating stolen Indian artifacts currently held in the US. This landmark agreement marks the first such accord between the two nations. Under the new agreement, both countries will collaborate to curb and prevent the illicit trade, import, export, and trafficking of archaeological and ethnological materials. The deal is seen as a significant step forward in protecting and preserving cultural heritage. At a press conference in New Delhi, Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat hailed the agreement as historic. He emphasized that it would enhance bilateral relations and promote intercultural



growth between the two countries. Shekhawat noted that the agreement follows a year of negotiations that began at the G-20 Summit in India last year. He also underscored the importance of repatriating illegally acquired ar-

tifacts, which allows communities to reclaim and preserve their heritage. US Ambassador to India, Eric Garcetti, welcomed the agreement, describing it as a vital move to acknowledge and return India's cultural treasures. He pointed out that India

is now the 30th partner in the US's bilateral Cultural Property Agreement program. Garcetti reiterated the US's commitment to strengthening its cultural diplomacy with India, further solidifying the partnership between the two nations.

## CCL Wins First Prize for Language Implementation



**RNS I Ranchi:** Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) has been honored with the first prize for Language Implementation at the CPDIL's semi-annual meeting of the Nagar Rajbhasha Karyanvayan Samiti (Ranchi) on July 26, 2024. The award, part of the Annual Awards Scheme 2023-24, recognizes outstanding efforts in the promotion and implementation of the official language. Harsh Nath Mishra, Director (Personnel) of CCL, received the award on behalf of the organization. The event was attended by CCL's General Manager (Rajbhasha) Sanjay

Thakur, Manager (Secretary/Rajbhasha) Baliram, and Deputy Manager (Rajbhasha) Dr. Divik Divesh. Additionally, three CCL employees were recognized and awarded for their exemplary performance in various competitions organized by Nagar Rajbhasha Karyanvayan Samiti (Ranchi) during the past semester. CCL continues to promote the use of Hindi through regular workshops, encouraging its employees to conduct more office work in Hindi, thereby enhancing the implementation of the official language.

## MCBA-2024 Corporate Training Concludes Successfully at CSIR-NML



by Suresh Pd Nikhar

**RNS I Gaya:** The East Central Railway (ECR) held its first Permanent Negotiating Machinery (PNM) meeting of 2024 on Thursday and Friday at its headquarters. Chaired by General Manager Suresh Pd Nikhar, the meeting brought together officials from the East Central Railway Employees Union (ECRKU) to discuss key issues related to railway interests and employee welfare. The meeting saw the participation of Principal Chief Personnel Officer B.K. Singh, along with Principal Heads of Departments and other senior railway officers. Discussions focused on several significant concerns raised by the union, including housing for employees stationed at remote locations, the availability of medicines in railway hospitals, cadre upgradation, and the enhancement of training centers. In his address, General Manager Chhatrasal Singh emphasized the importance of employee welfare and affirmed the Railway Administration's commitment to addressing these issues. He expressed appreciation for the union's cooperative stance and expressed confidence that, with the continued dedication of railway employees, East Central Railway will achieve new milestones. The GM assured that the suggestions made by the Employees Union would be taken seriously, with necessary and prompt actions planned. He reiterated his commitment to enhancing employee welfare, improving railway facilities, boosting revenue, and focusing on development projects. Singh also expressed optimism about the union's involvement in the progress of East Central Railway. The meeting was attended by DK Pandey, President of the East Central Railway Employees Union, General Secretary SNP Shrivastava, and other officials from the union's headquarters and divisions, who shared their perspectives and suggestions.

## MCBA-2024 Corporate Training Concludes Successfully at CSIR-NML



**RNS I Bokaro :** DPS Bokaro celebrated its Investiture Ceremony for the academic session 2024-25 with grandeur, formally inducting the newly selected Student Council Members. The Ashwaghosh Kala Kshetra was abuzz with confidence and determination. Om Prakash Gupta, IAS, Sub Divisional Officer, Chas, attended as the Chief Guest. The event began with a welcome song and the School song, followed by an inspirational dance drama. The Chief Guest and the Principal conferred badges and sashes to the new Student Council

Members, symbolizing their new responsibilities. Outgoing Council Members were honored for their dedication. The newly appointed members pledged to serve the school and uphold the motto 'Service Before Self'. Kanhaiya Bharadwaj was sworn in as Head Boy, with Riddhima Kaushal and Ananya Raj as Head Girls. Gyan Prakash took oath as Vice Head Boy, and Mansi Pandey and Edha Singh as Vice Head Girls. Prasoon Pankaj was appointed Literary Secretary, with Mohit Kumar and Shiwangi Mishra as Deputies. Ayush Kumar Jaiswal became Cul-

tural Secretary, with Roshni Singh as Deputy. Siddhant Tripathi was named Sports Secretary, with Sheetal Rajput as Deputy. Gupta emphasised nurturing leadership and urged the new leaders to embrace creativity, responsibility, and challenges. Principal Dr. A.S. Gangwar congratulated the new members and encouraged them to be disciplined and hardworking. He praised the outgoing members for setting a high standard. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by the Head Girl and the National Anthem.

## “Propagation of Hindi Abroad”: 36 Sri Lankan Students Selected To Study Hindi In India



**RNS I New Delhi:** In a bid to strengthen cultural ties between India and Sri Lanka, 36 Sri Lankan students have been selected for scholarships to study Hindi in India. The scholarships, provided by the Government of India, cover academic fees and local accommodations for a nine-month course at the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan in Agra, starting this August. Santosh Jha, the High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, met with the students before their departure. During the meeting, he emphasized the significance of Hindi language and literature in reinforcing the deep-rooted cultural, linguistic, literary,

and religious connections between the two nations. Jha extended his best wishes to the students for their studies in India, highlighting that this year marks the largest group of Sri Lankan scholars selected under the “Propaga-

tion of Hindi Abroad” program. Over the past 13 years, more than 170 students from Sri Lanka have benefited from this initiative, with this year's cohort representing the highest number yet.

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## DPS Bokaro Alumnus Inspires Students with Life Lessons and Wellness Advice



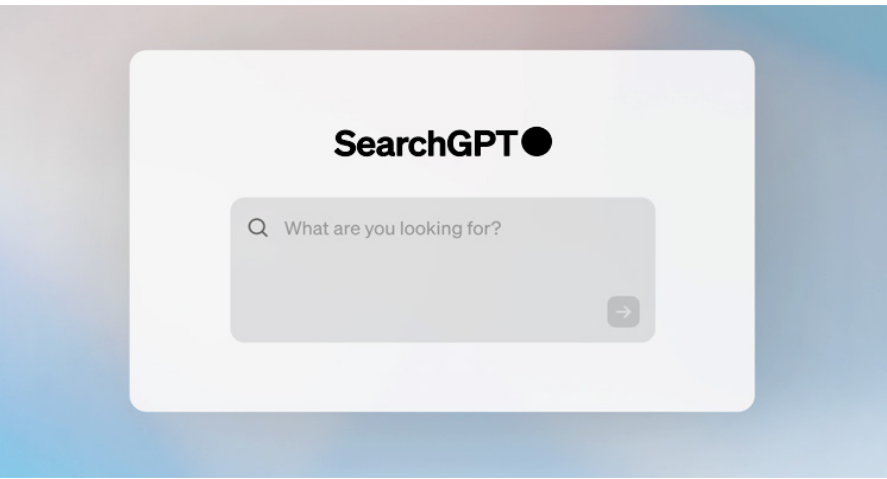
**RNS I Bokaro:** Anant Kumar, a distinguished alumnus of DPS Bokaro from the 1993 batch and currently serving as the Additional Commissioner of Chas Municipal Corporation, recently returned to his alma mater to motivate and guide the current students. During his visit, Kumar shared his valuable insights on essential life skills, making a significant impact on the student body. He highlighted the importance of holistic development, stressing that physical fitness is fundamental to leading a healthy and productive life. Kumar encouraged students to prioritize their well-being through regular exercise and self-care. Expressing his gratitude towards DPS Bokaro, Kumar praised the school's world-class infrastructure, noting its role in shaping students into future global leaders. He also emphasized the importance of empathy, ethical values, integrity, honesty, and fairness, urging students to uphold these principles in their lives. Principal Dr. A.S. Gangwar expressed his pleasure and pride in hosting the visit, acknowledging the positive influence of alumni like Kumar. He highlighted the significance of such engagements in inspiring students and continuing the school's legacy of educational excellence.

## Barack Obama Backs Kamala Harris for 2024 Presidential Race

**Washington:** Former President Barack Obama has officially endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris as the Democratic candidate for the upcoming presidential election. On Friday, Obama confirmed his support for Harris, putting to rest any speculation about his position on her candidacy. In a post on X, Obama expressed his confidence in Harris's ability to lead, stating, “Earlier this week, Michelle and I called our friend @KamalaHarris. We told her we think she'll make a fantastic President of the United States, and that she has our full support. At this critical moment for our country, we're going to do everything we can to make sure she wins in November. We hope you'll join us.” Harris's bid for the presidency gained momentum following the withdrawal of Joe Biden from the race earlier this week.

## SearchGPT: A New AI-Driven Search Engine Set to Compete with Google

**RNS I New Delhi:** OpenAI has introduced SearchGPT, an innovative search engine powered by artificial intelligence that aims to challenge Google's dominance in the search market. The new tool offers users real-time access to information from the internet, promising faster and more accurate search results. On its website, OpenAI described SearchGPT as a “temporary prototype” designed to deliver quick, relevant answers with clear sources. The company is currently rolling out the search engine to a select group of users and publishers to gather feedback. “We're testing SearchGPT to refine new AI search capabilities, with the intention of integrating the best features directly into ChatGPT in the future,” OpenAI stated. Individuals interested in trying out the prototype



can join a waitlist for early access. OpenAI emphasized that traditional web searches can be time-consuming and often require multiple attempts to find relevant information. The company believes that enhancing its AI models with real-time web data will make searching faster and more efficient.

News Corp and The Atlantic are among the initial publishing partners for SearchGPT. Robert Thomson, CEO of News Corp, commented on the launch: “Sam and the truly talented team at OpenAI understand that effective AI-powered search depends on high-quality, reliable information from trusted sources.

For a balanced and effective search experience, the relationship between technology and content must be symbiotic, with a strong focus on provenance.” OpenAI's CEO, Sam Altman, shared his vision on X (formerly Twitter), stating, “We believe there is significant potential to improve search beyond current capabilities.”

## Sutlej and Jamuna Houses Shine in DPS Chas ‘Aavirbhav’ Competition

**RNS I Bokaro:** The Orchestra Competition, a highlight of DPS Chas' Cultural Week “Aavirbhav - 2024,” took place in the Bharat Muni Assembly Arena, featuring four houses. Dr. Hemlata S Mohan, Chief Mentor, was joined by Pro-Vice Chairman N. Muralidharan, Officiating Principal Deepali Bhuskute, and Headmistress Ms. Sudeshna Sinha. Judges included Dr. Rake-



sh Ranjan, Dhananjay Chakraborty, and Jagdish Babla. In the Primary Wing, Jamuna House won

first place, with Chenab House and Ganga House securing second and third positions. In the Secondary Wing, Sut-

lej House emerged as the winner, followed by Ganga House and Jamuna House. Dr. Mohan praised the event for fostering interest in percussion and world music. Muralidharan encouraged students to learn musical instruments, while Sinha and Agarwal recognized the students' hard work. Bhuskute urged all students to train in music.

## Madhushravani Festival Kicks Off in Mithila with Devotion and Festivities



by Arun Pathak

**Bokaro:** Mithila's cherished Madhushravani festival has commenced with fervent devotion and festive spirit. Celebrated during the Sawan month, this festival holds special significance for newly married couples in the Mithila region. The festival began on Maun Panchami, Thursday, July 25, and will continue until Wednesday, August 7. It starts on the Panchami Tithi of Sawan Krishna Paksha, with rituals dedicated to Shiva-Parvati and the serpent god. The celebrations are particularly meaningful for newly married Maithili women, who perform these rites to ensure the well-being of their husbands. During Madhushravani, worship materials are provided by the woman's in-laws, and she consumes food and sweets brought from her marital home. The festive atmosphere is enriched with devotional songs sung by Maithili women. On the final day of the festival, the newly married woman, dressed in new sarees and adorned with jewelry and make-up from her in-laws, participates in the Puja alongside her husband. The ritual also includes the burning of Temi. The Pujan is conducted by a female Pandit, and the concluding ceremony features a special feast for relatives and friends.

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## UP Government Defends Kanwar Order, Tells Supreme Court It Was To Ensure Peace

In a detailed submission to the Supreme Court, the state government said that the directive was issued to ensure a peaceful and orderly pilgrimage.



**New Delhi.**The Uttar Pradesh government has firmly opposed petitions challenging its directive requiring shop owners along the Kanwar Yatra route to display their names prominently. In a detailed submission to the Supreme Court, the state government said that the directive was issued to ensure a peaceful and orderly pilgrimage. The state government further explained that the directive was issued in response to complaints received from Kanwariyas regarding confusion caused by the names of the shops and eateries. "The yatra is an arduous journey, where some Kanwariyas , i.e. the Dak Kanwariyas, do not even stop to rest once the Kanwar is on their shoulders. There are sacred features of the

pilgrimage, such as the fact that the Kanwar, once filled with holy Gangajal, is not to be kept on the ground; nor under the shadow of the gular tree. It may also be noted that a Kanwaria embarks on the Yatra after years of preparation," the government said in its statement.The Kanwar Yatra, an annual pilgrimage where devotees of Lord Shiva, known as Kanwariyas, travel to fetch holy water from the Ganges River, sees millions of participants each year. The Uttar Pradesh government claimed that the directive was introduced in response to specific complaints from Kanwariyas. Pilgrims had allegedly raised concerns about the food being served along the route, which led to apprehensions regarding its preparation in line with religious practices.

## On Kargil Vijay Diwas, PM Modi defends Agnipath scheme, Congress hits back

PM Modi, speaking at the Kargil War Memorial on Vijay Diwas, said the Agnipath scheme was aimed at rejuvenating the armed forces.

**New Delhi.** Amid demands from the opposition and some NDA allies for a review of the Agnipath scheme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday mounted a strong defence of the military recruitment policy, saying it aimed to rejuvenate the armed forces and keep them continuously fit for war. The Congress, however, stuck to its demand of scrapping the scheme introduced in 2022. Addressing a gathering in Ladakh's Dras on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, PM Modi accused the opposition of playing politics on a sensitive issue connected to national security. "Some people are spreading the misconception that the government has brought this scheme to save pension money. The question of pension for today's recruits will arise after 30 years. Why would the government take a decision on it today? It should have left it to the governments of that time. We have respected this decision taken by the armed forces because we work for 'rashtraneeti', not 'rajneeti'," PM Modi said. Under the Agnipath scheme, personnel are recruited



PM says Agnipath scheme aimed at rejuvenating armed forces  
Accuses opposition of playing politics on national security issue  
Congress says doesn't enhance capability of armed forces

in the Army, Navy and the Air Force on a short-term contract of four years. Of the total annual recruits, only 25% are allowed to continue for another 15 years

under permanent commission. In fact, an internal report of the BJP has cited anger towards the Agnipath scheme as one of the reasons behind the party's debacle in the Uttar Pradesh Lok Sabha polls. In an indirect dig at the Congress, the Prime Minister said the previous governments never cared about the soldiers and also "lied" about the One Rank One Pension scheme. "It is our government that implemented One Rank One Pension, gave more than Rs 1.25 lakh crore to ex-servicemen. These are the same people who did not build a war memorial... These are the same people who did not provide adequate bulletproof jackets to our soldiers deployed on the border," he asserted. Countering PM Modi, Congress MP Karti Chidambaram said the scheme in "no way" strengthens the capacity and the capability of the armed forces. "Agnipath scheme is a short-term induction into the armed forces without the necessary training and the benefits. A professional army going forward needs comprehensive training and a full commission," he said.

### 50 pilgrims stranded in Uttarakhand after heavy rain triggers landslides

**Dehradun.** At least 50 pilgrims and locals were stranded near the Madmaheshwar Temple in Uttarakhand after the yatra to the shrine was stopped on Thursday due to heavy rain and landslides on the trekking route. According to officials, a temporary wooden bridge, built over the Markanda River, was washed away amid incessant rainfall in the area, disrupting the yatra to the temple even more. The shrine, which is part of the Panch Kedar group of temples in Uttarakhand, is located at an altitude of 11,473 feet. Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Thursday issued an 'orange alert' for Dehradun and Bageshwar, predicting moderate to heavy rainfall in the area. After the advisory, the local administration decided to close all schools and Anganwadi centres in the city for Friday (July 26). "All government and private schools from class 1 to 12 and Anganwadi centres in Dehradun will remain closed on Friday in view of an 'orange' alert issued by the NDMA's National Disaster Alert Portal for heavy rain accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning in the district," an order by the Dehradun DM said.

### Why Bengal BJP chief's north Bengal-Northeast merger plan has hit a raw nerve

**Kolkata.** Bengal BJP president Dr Sukanta Majumdar's request to the Centre to "include" the northern part of West Bengal with the "North East" has sent shock waves within political circles in West Bengal. Historically, there has been a perception among residents in north Bengal that the region has been neglected in terms of development and infrastructure compared to Kolkata and adjoining areas in the southern part of the state. Majumdar's request is being seen as reinforcing that very sentiment. "I have handed over a presentation to the Prime Minister highlighting the similarities between north Bengal and the North East and how north Bengal can be included into the Northeast," Majumdar said. "In the future, if north Bengal can be included with the Northeast as part of West Bengal, then the region will get more funds as part of various central schemes. The area is backward and it will help develop the region. I don't think the state government will have any objections and that they will also cooperate," Majumdar, who is also the MoS for Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, said after a meeting with PM Modi.The development is being seen by some as Majumdar trying to consolidate the BJP's core support in the state, one that has given electoral dividends to the party.

## INDIA protest on July 30 over Arvind Kejriwal's 'declining health' in jail

The Aam Aadmi Party has said that the Opposition-led INDIA bloc will hold a protest at Delhi's Jantar Mantar on July 30 over the declining health of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in jail.

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**New Delhi.** The Opposition-led INDIA bloc will hold a rally on July 30 at Delhi's Jantar Mantar to raise the issue of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's declining health inside Tihar Jail, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) said on Thursday. The AAP chief is currently lodged in jail in the now-scrapped liquor policy case. The AAP has been accusing the BJP of "conspiring to kill" Kejriwal in jail, citing his medical report to show that his sugar levels had fallen 26 times between June 3 and July 7. "The INDIA bloc will hold a big

rally at Jantar Mantar on July 30 to raise the issue of Kejriwal's falling health," the AAP said. The ruling party in Delhi has accused the BJP-led Centre and Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena of playing the Chief Minister's life. During a press conference on Thursday, Delhi Minister Atishi was asked about the rally and she said that the BJP was conspiring against the people of the national capital. "The Bharatiya Janata Party is conspiring against the people of Delhi in every way. It is stopping the work of the people of Delhi. It is stopping the money of the people of Delhi. The BJP got Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain who worked for the people of Delhi arrested," she alleged. Atishi also claimed that when the BJP learnt about Kejriwal's possibility to get bail from the Supreme Court, they got him arrested by the CBI. "They know that Kejriwal has diabetes for the last 30 years. His

weight has gone down by 8.5 kg in custody. A glucometer monitors his sugar levels during the entire day. The data of this device is shared with LG and the Centre. They know that Kejriwal's sugar levels have declined to dangerous levels," the Delhi Minister claimed. She alleged that Arvind Kejriwal's sugar levels have dipped a total of 34 times in custody."BJP knew this and got him arrested by CBI. (The) BJP wants his health to be permanently damaged. All the INDIA bloc parties will protest against Kejriwal's custody and the prevailing danger to his health," Atishi said.Last week, VK Saxena wrote to the Delhi Chief Secretary underscoring Kejriwal's health condition, saying reports provided by the Tihar Jail superintendent flagged that the Chief Minister was intentionally consuming fewer calories than medically recommended. The Lt Governor sought urgent action and implementation of strict protocols for monitoring Kejriwal's blood sugar levels. A day later, AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh claimed that Kejriwal's medical reports showed that "anything can happen to him anytime". Arvind Kejriwal is lodged at Delhi's Tihar Jail after being arrested by the CBI in a corruption case related to the Delhi liquor policy scam.

## Kargil Vijay Diwas Occasion To Pay Tributes To Valour Of Armed Forces: President

Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed on July 26 every year to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1999 war.



**New Delhi.** President Droupadi Murmu on Friday said the Kargil Vijay Diwas is an occasion to pay tributes to the 'courage and extraordinary valour of the country's armed forces. Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed on July 26 every year to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1999 war. The Indian Army had launched a fierce counter-assault to push back Pakistani forces that had stealthily occupied important heights in Ladakh. "Kargil Vijay Diwas is an occasion for a grateful nation to pay tribute to the 'courage and extraordinary valour of our armed forces," Murmu said in a post in Hindi on X. "I pay tribute to each soldier who made the supreme sacrifice while protecting Mother India on the peaks of Kargil in 1999 and bow in reverence to their sacred memory. I am sure that all countrymen will draw inspiration from their sacrifice and valour. Jai Hind Jai Bharat!" she said.

## Raj Thackeray to go solo in Maharashtra elections, eyes 225-250 seats

At a party meeting in Mumbai, Raj Thackeray said the MNS would contest the Assembly elections alone after previously extending support to the NDA in Lok Sabha polls.

Raj Thackeray had extended support to NDA in Lok Sabha elections  
Team of five leaders appointed to select candidates  
MNS leader cites no consensus between Mahayuti

**Mumbai.** After the recent debacle of the Mahayuti alliance in the Lok Sabha polls, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) Chief Raj Thackeray has decided to go solo in the upcoming Assembly elections. At a party meeting held on Thursday in Mumbai, Raj Thackeray said the party was preparing to field candidates in 225-250 seats. Interestingly, just months ago, Thackeray had extended unconditional support to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the NDA in the Lok Sabha elections. "We are preparing for nearly 225 to 250 seats out of a total of 288 assembly seats in the state," Thackeray said in his address. Raj Thackeray has also appointed a team of five leaders in each constituency to identify probable candidates from his party. Additionally, he will start his Maharashtra tour on August 1 to address meetings and



gather feedback from party workers. On the party's decision to contest alone, MNS leader Sandip Deshpande said they cannot wait for a proposal from the Mahayuti alliance. "There does not seem to be a consensus between the constituent parties (BJP, Shiv Sena Shinde camp, and NCP Ajit Pawar camp) on seat sharing yet," said Deshpande.However, opposition parties pounced on the MNS for changing its political stance.

Anand Dubey, spokesperson of Sena (UBT), said, "Raj Thackeray supported the NDA in Lok Sabha and is now going solo in Vidhan Sabha. He is willing to come to power on his own, despite having only one MLA. He seems to be confused and needs to clarify what he really wants to say."Meanwhile, Sanjay Shirsat, MLA and spokesperson of Shinde's Shiv Sena, asked the MNS to join the Mahayuti alliance for the Assembly polls. "Seat sharing distribution has not yet been finalised. Once the senior party leaders make a final decision on the seat distribution, they will also propose an offer to MNS," he said.Interestingly, Deputy Chief Minister and NCP Chief Ajit Pawar has expressed his desire to contest the upcoming state polls on 80 to 90 seats, while Shinde's Sena is eyeing nearly 100 seats.



## Biden out, but Trump may still win

US President Joe Biden announced on July 21 that he was dropping out of the presidential elections due in November. After his poor showing in the one-to-one TV debate with Donald Trump on June 27, there had been a rising crescendo of influential voices in the Democratic Party calling upon Biden to stand down as a candidate and allow a younger nominee to face Trump, the Republican candidate, in the elections. It has taken a precious three weeks since the debate for Biden to yield to pressure from within his party to finally stand down. There will be limited time available for party managers to home in on a credible candidate for endorsement at the Democratic Party convention scheduled to start on August 19. Although Biden has endorsed Vice-President Kamala Harris as the candidate he supports and has urged the party to rally behind her, there are indications that key figures like former President Barack Obama and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi may prefer another candidate. Any contestation at this late stage can only diminish any raised hopes which may have been generated by Biden’s announcement. Assuming Harris does get the party’s endorsement at the party convention next month, how do her chances stack up against Trump? Harris has both Black and Asian credentials and should be able to mobilise the non-White constituency. She is a strong champion of women’s rights and has been vocal in opposing anti-abortion laws. As a potential first woman President of the US, she may appeal to the large female constituency across the racial divide. She has taken a strong position on the Gaza war, calling for an immediate ceasefire, which contrasts with Biden’s continuing though reluctant support to Israel. This may be a nuanced difference with her boss but may make her more congenial to the pro-Palestinian Arab-Americans and a large section of the US youth. While these may be her assets, the downside would be the very limited time she has to mobilise support for her candidacy within the party in the less than four weeks available to her. She cannot afford to have a contested candidacy at the party convention. A quick and consensus endorsement by the party immediately in advance of the convention will free her to concentrate on campaigning against Trump rather than her possible contenders within the party. Even if she wins a contested candidacy at the party convention, legitimacy as a presidential contender will be contrasted with the overwhelming endorsement Trump has already received as the Republican nominee. And Trump would already have a head start in the campaign much before Harris gets her act together. Campaign finance may also be an issue. Some large contributors to the Democratic Party had held back on their contributions after Biden’s poor showing at the June debate with Trump. Will they open their purse strings for Harris? There are many doubts on this score. Trump has no problem at all on the finance front. Taking all these factors into account, Biden stepping down and Harris being inducted into the race at this late stage is unlikely to improve the Democrats’ chances significantly. If not Harris, who? None of the possible contenders has the name recognition that Harris has and would have even less time to pose a serious and credible challenge to Trump. The best bet for the party is Harris, but a lack of a broad consensus over her candidature will diminish any positive outcome from Biden’s exit from the race. Trump has a solid base of support, perhaps as much as 40 per cent of the voting population. The assassination attempt against him has given him the benefit of the inevitable sympathy factor. But more than that, his close brush with death is likely to galvanise his supporters to come out in large numbers to vote for him. There is no comparable galvanising factor on the Democratic side. Enthusiasm among Democratic supporters may be of a lesser order. At this stage of the political game, therefore, Trump appears to have a head start over any Democratic rival. It is likely that Trump will heighten US contention with China, and not only on the trade issue. He has said that he will end the Ukraine war but not how. The large financial and military support the US has extended to Ukraine might be more easily suspended or significantly reduced. The European countries are unlikely to be able to make up for reduced US support.

## Seeing through a satsang and a spectacular wedding

Decadence manifests itself in the naked and vulgar display of wealth, power and privilege.

EVEN though the government stimulates us to dream of ‘Viksit Bharat’, the fact is that there is no end to our cultural and moral decadence. The prevalent state of our culture cannot be confused with typical calendar art — say, a set of pictures/images of Kabir, Guru Nanak, Gandhi, Tagore and Vivekananda, and select quotes from their noble speeches, sermons and writings. Instead, if culture is the way we actually live, think, behave, act and choose our role models, we need to see its manifestations not in the museumised artefacts but in everyday practices like, to take two recent illustrations, a satsang and a lavish wedding ceremony.

If the ‘developed’ West — tormented by the contradictions of techno-capitalism and associated ‘burnout’ culture — has given birth to the entire industry of ‘self-help’ books, life coaches and motivational speakers to promote some sort of illusory psychic healing, we in India are never tired of producing all sorts of babas and gurus selling their ‘miracles’ and ‘salvation’ techniques. Yes, the English-speaking/affluent/metropolitan class living with the anxieties associated with ‘productivity’ and ‘success’ prefers fancy gurus, consumes the attractively designed package of Zen, Vedanta and mindfulness, and feels ‘relaxed’ and ‘peaceful’ in special ‘retreats’. These gurus, almost like Euro-American motivational speakers, do a fairly good business, and make their rich clients — business tycoons, corporate elites, and cricket/Bollywood celebrities — feel ‘good’ and ‘positive’. Live with power, wealth and privilege, but take care of your breathing exercises! What else do the rich need from their gurus? And the poor, the downtrodden and the economically/socially marginalised class — tormented by all sorts of insecurities and everyday struggle for survival — can’t approach these celebrity gurus. However, the market manufactures yet another kind of babas for them. And these babas — gross, yet clever and manipulative — begin to play with the existential uncertainty and economic insecurity of the poor and the marginalised, and exploit their psychic vulnerability. It is like hypnotising them through their ‘miracles’ and mantras; it is like making them believe that a darshan of these babas in a satsang, or their very touch can heal all wounds. Well, the roots



merchants of illusory religion and the politico-administrative class. What else is it except our moral/religious/cultural/political decadence? And now think of yet another kind of decadence that manifests itself in the naked and vulgar display of wealth, power and privilege. Almost like a glossy Bollywood film or a TV serial, the wedding ceremony of Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant looked spectacular and hyper-real. Never mind the gross socioeconomic inequality that characterises our society. Never mind the intensity of hunger, malnutrition and homelessness. And don’t expect the ideals like austerity, decency and simplicity from the elite class. Instead, as the mix of market fundamentalism, hyper-consumerism and psychic narcissism becomes the desired ideal in the age of neo-liberalism, the Ambanis found nothing wrong in transforming an otherwise beautiful and sacred occasion like the wedding of their son into a glossy

spectacle to demonstrate what money could do. Yes, money, as the young, idealist, Hegelian Karl Marx wrote in 1844, can transform everything into its opposite: vice into virtue, or ugliness into beauty. It is, therefore, not surprising that this wedding ceremony lost its sublime music; instead, it showed the power the ‘billionaire raj’ in contemporary India holds over the economy, politics, culture and religion. From the galaxy of corporate elites to the icons of popular culture, and from religious gurus to influential politicians — the Ambanis seem to have mastered the technique of ‘holding and possessing’ everybody who matters. In a way, the lavish wedding ceremony showed its magical power to unite global capitalism, ‘Hindu traditions’, culture industry, religion and politics. And as ordinary/unknown Indians, you and I were persuaded to consume the tales of this spectacle — the flow of Rs 5,000 crore, the photo sessions, the fashion parade, the dazzling guest list, the diplomacy beneath the exchange of gifts, the food bonanza... Yes, from a satsang in Hathras to a wedding ceremony in Mumbai — the decadence seems to be all-pervading. See the way everything has become upside down. For the elites, the Gandhian ideal of austerity or minimalism seems to have become a bad word in contemporary India; the nexus between the political class and the corporate elites is the new normal; religion has lost the religiosity of love and compassion as it has become merely an instrument for retaining the status quo; and ordinary citizens have been reduced into a crowd of non-critical/non-reflexive consumers of cricket, Bollywood, soap operas, the ‘magical’ deeds of babas and gurus, the dramaturgical performances of the political class, and the fairy tales of the galaxy of celebrities. Will it ever be possible to resist this rot and move towards a sane culture — a culture that nurtures the spirit of equity and justice, values simplicity and decency and promotes the kind of critical thinking that enables us to say ‘no’ to the vulgar display of wealth through which the select billionaires demonstrate their narcissistic selves or the way the entire industry of babas and gurus reduces religion to a business?

## Vision for agriculture

Focus on sustainability, income for farmers

THE 2024-25 Budget introduces significant provisions aimed at transforming the agricultural sector with a focus on sustainability, productivity and economic growth for farmers. One crore farmers are envisaged to be initiated into natural farming within two years. This enterprise is to be complemented by establishing 10,000 bio-input resource centres for sustainable farm practices. To enhance vegetable production and streamline the supply chain, the Budget emphasises promoting Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), cooperatives and startups. Playing a critical role in the collection, storage and marketing of vegetables, these entities will help farmers receive better prices and reduce post-harvest losses. Another notable initiative is the release of 109 new high-yielding and climate-resilient varieties of 32 field and



horticulture crops. It aims to address climate change challenges and ensure stable agricultural production. A review of the agricultural research setup is also planned. In a bid to reduce the country’s dependence on imported

edible oils, the Budget introduces measures to boost the cultivation of mustard, groundnut, sesame, soybean and sunflower. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) is set to revolutionise the sector by covering farmers and their lands within three years. However, these ambitious provisions face implementation challenges. The widespread adoption of natural farming practices requires substantial training and support, which may strain resources. Establishing 10,000 bio-input resource centres and enhancing FPOs necessitate better coordination and investment. Promoting climate-resilient crop varieties and boosting oilseed production hinge on robust extension services. DPI initiatives also require overcoming technological barriers and ensuring equitable access. Addressing them is vital for realising the Budget’s vision.

## Budget reflects new realities of political landscape

What stands out in the budgetary proposals is the detailed plan outlined for employment and skilling, clearly in response to the clamour for jobs.

THE first Budget of the new government reflects the new realities of the political landscape, even as it seeks to move towards higher and more inclusive growth. Agriculture and employment, along with skilling, have been given pride of place, even as efforts have been made to cool down bullish equity markets. The infrastructure push continues, but the private sector is now clearly expected to shoulder the burden of higher investments. As for the long-suffering salaried middle class, it has finally been given its due with a cut in the standard deduction and reduced tax rates. Stock markets may be unhappy with some levies, but the abolition of the angel tax and corporate tax cuts on foreign companies are set to give an impetus to investments. Despite these cuts, fiscal prudence remains a major achievement, with the deficit being brought down from 5.1 per cent in the Interim Budget to 4.9 for 2024-25.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman’s seventh Budget looks to the future. But the next-generation reforms have been set aside for a new economic policy framework. Though some steps are proposed in the critical area of land reforms, with the digitisation of rural and urban land records, others have been left to await the unveiling of this new policy. Medium and small industries must also wait until more detailed proposals are formulated to get rid of the licensing and compliance rules that have been a huge burden for the sector.

On agriculture, the focus is rightly on research in the areas of productivity and climate change, as experts agree that it is time for this sector to pivot in a new direction. Decades after the Green Revolution, which brought prosperity and plenty in foodgrains, the agriculture economy now has to move towards other crops and improved efficiency. Vegetables, oilseeds and pulses are thus given higher priority in the

Budget along with marine products like shrimp, which dominate the export basket. What stands out in the budgetary proposals, however, is the detailed plan outlined for employment and skilling, clearly in response to the clamour for jobs, which was a dominant theme in the elections. The proposals envisage employment subsidies in the formal sector, for which Rs 1.48 lakh crore has been allocated in the current fiscal. From providing the first month’s salary to the support in provident fund deductions, the set of schemes is expected to benefit 29 million youth in new jobs. The onus is also on business houses to ensure that some funding is provided through their corporate social responsibility corpus.

Skilling has not been left out either, and a new Centrally sponsored scheme for this purpose will upgrade Industrial Training Institutes in line with the industry’s needs. It is expected to benefit two million young people. The only snag is that, so far, such skilling education has not been effective enough to meet the needs of many sectors. There is, thus, the incongruent situation of jobs being available but not enough trained personnel to fill them. A more nuanced approach needs to be taken to such skilling programmes by involving leading agencies so that the end result is an employable individual.

The need to push up female labour force participation is mentioned in the form of a public-private partnership in setting up women’s hostels and crèches. But details of the proposal are yet to be given. Other schemes are also specified for promoting greater market access for women-led cooperative enterprises. But there needs to be much greater emphasis on providing support to women to enter the labour force in a deeply patriarchal society. The other element in the Budget that is clearly the



outcome of political compulsions facing a coalition government is the largesse being showered on the states of Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. The new Purvodaya scheme for the eastern region, however, will probably provide a long-awaited thrust to infrastructure in the slowest-growing region of the country. Significantly, the funding is being provided not just from the Centre but through multilateral financing institutions. Andhra Pradesh is an outlier in the eastern region in terms of economic development. Even so, it needs a massive infusion of funds, both for the new capital and the critical Polavaram Irrigation Project. Here, too, there will be a mix of funding from the Centre and multilateral institutions. But a clear signal of reassurance has gone out to the key coalition partners, Nitish Kumar and Chandrababu Naidu, that finance will be provided for essential infrastructure in both states. It

is in the area of taxation, however, that the Budget proposals have likely given the most joy and the most grief to different segments. The increase in the standard reduction as well as the alteration of personal income tax rates are bound to please the salaried middle class. The catch is that taxpayers will have to opt for the new tax regime without any exemption to avail themselves of the new rates. Yet, it was a long-awaited change, and Sitharaman had the fiscal space this year to finally fulfil the expectations of the salaried segment. Foreign companies have also been given a cut in the corporate tax rate from 40 to 35 per cent. It could conceivably reverse the declining trend in foreign direct investment. The removal of the angel investment. The removal of the angel tax will similarly be greeted by hosannas from the startup community, as it was aimed at fledgling companies in this segment.

As for the increase in the short- and long-term capital gains tax as well as the hiking of the securities transaction tax on futures and options trading, the stock markets had a gloomy reaction. They traded in the red for the whole day, evidently in the fallout from the tax hikes. The first Budget of Modi 3.0 is thus marked by pragmatism rather than populism. The exchequer had the benefit of an infusion of funds from the RBI earlier in the year, allowing fiscal prudence along with a continued push in public capital expenditure. Yet, the launch of the badly needed next-generation reforms, especially in case of doing business, is still awaited, as these will generate a major stimulus to the economy.



ট্রিমসি চায়, এসপরি আওযাদশে প্রসাদকে লোকস-ভার উপস্পিকারি নঘিগে করা নতুন দিল্লি: ভারত টুডে রিপোর্ট অনুযাযী, ট্রিনামূল কংগ্রেস কেন্দ্রকে আহ্বান জানালো যে, লোকসভার উপস্পিকার হিসেবে সমাজওযাদী পার্টির ফাইজাবাদ সংসদ সদস্য আওযাদেশ প্রসাদকে নিযগে করা হোক। আওযাদেশ প্রসাদ ফাইজাবাদ নির্বাচন থেকে জযী হন, যেটি অযোধ্যা অস্ফুর্ভুক্ত করে। এখন পর্যস্ফু কেন্দ্রের ১৭শ লোকসভ-ার উপস্পিকারি নির্বাচনের সময়সূচি ঘোষণা করেনি। প্রতিকূলকরা একজন রাজনৈতিক ও প্রতীকাত্মক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ প্রাধীর উপস্থাপন করেছে। আওযাদেশ প্রসাদ, একজন দলিত নেতা, ফাইজাবাদ সসন্ড আসন হতে, বিজেপির লাল্লু সিংহকে পেছনে ফেলে, ৫০,০০০ ভোটের মধ্যে বেশি ভোট পেযেছেন. এটা ব্যাপক মনোযোগ আকর্ষণ করে। বিরোধীরা বিজেপির বিরস্কে অভিযোগ করেছেন যে, রাম মন্দিরের উদ্বোধনের পরও দলটি আসনটি সুরক্ষিত করতে ব্যর্থ হযেছে। উপস্পিকারের ভূমিকা অনুভব করে তারা সংসদের মধ্যে সমান আইন সমাপ্তি হিসাবে রাখে এবং স্পিকারের অনুপস্থিতিতে য্ত্যু, অসুস্থতা, বা অন্যান্য কারণে পরিচালনা দায়ত্ব নেয। এটি একটি সংসদীয় ঐতিহাসিক পরিচযরে প্রক্রিয়া, যেখানে প্রধান দলের বাইরে থেকে একজন উপস্পিকারি নির্বাচন করা হয, যাতে স্বাধীন এবং দায়ত্বিশীল ডেমোক্রেটিক সংসদ নিশ্চিত হয।

চুনরিয়া মেন্‌ ডাগ

— শ্যাম কুংবর ভারতী (রাজভর)

জেকারা পর রহে বড়া এতবার,  
দগা দেকে দগাভাজ ভাগল যে রাম।  
রহে মোরী কোরী ধোবল চুনরিয়া,  
চুনরিয়া মেন্‌ দগিয়া লাগল যে রাম।

বড়া রে গুমান রহে রখিহে মোর লজিয়া,  
জেতনা হম কর্‌ইলী অ়োতনা মনিহে মোর বতিয়া।  
কর্‌ই কে করার ঔ ভর্‌ইলে ফরার ,  
দরদিয়া সে ছতিয়া ফাটল যে রাম।  
চুনরিয়া মেন্‌ দগিয়া.....।

হম নাহী জনলী আপন পরায়া নাহী বুজলী।  
এক হী অখিয়াং সে সবকে হম দেখলী।  
মৌকা কে বেরিয়া অংগুঠা দেখবলে,  
আসমনবা পতংগবা ডোরিয়া কাটল যে রাম।  
চুনরিয়া মেন্‌ দগিয়া.....।

কেকরা কে দের্‌ই হম অব দোশ ,  
কেকরা সে রহী হম অব রোশ।  
অপনে করমবা কে ভোগ হম ভোগলী,  
ভগিয়া সে বিধাতা হমকে ছাটল যে রাম।  
চুনরিয়া মেন্‌ দগিয়া লাগল যে রাম।

জট কে बाद फीकी पड़ी सोने और चांदी की चमक, निवेशकों को सर्राफा बाजार में और गिरावट की उम्मीद

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। | बजट पेश होने के बाद मल्टी कम्पोज़ीट एक्सचेंज (एमसीएक्स) में सोने और चांदी के भाव में लगातार गिरावट की स्थिति बनी हुई है। इस गिरावट के कारण एमसीएक्स में सोना 4 महीने के सबसे निचले स्तर पर पहुंच गया है। इसी तरह चांदी की कीमत भी 2 महीने के सबसे निचले स्तर पर पहुंच गई है। एमसीएक्स पर वायदा कारोबार में सोना 68,000 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के करीब पहुंच गया है। चांदी की कीमत भी 81,300 रुपये के स्तर पर पहुंच गई है। आंकड़ों के मुताबिक पिछले एक हफ्ते के दौरान ही एमसीएक्स पर सोने के भाव में 7 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। वहीं एक महीने के आंकड़े पर नजर डालें, तो ये गिरावट 5 प्रतिशत की है। ये स्थिति भी तब है, जब अमेरिका में सोने के वायदा कारोबार में पिछले एक हफ्ते में सिर्फ एक प्रतिशत की गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। एक महीने का आंकड़ा देखें तो वायदा कारोबार में अमेरिकी बाजार में सोने के भाव



में 2 प्रतिशत की तेजी आई है। अगर साल 2024 की शुरुआत से लेकर अभी तक का आंकड़ा देखें तो अमेरिकी वायदा बाजार में सोना 15

प्रतिशत तक की गिरावट आई है। एक महीने के आंकड़े में चांदी में 6 प्रतिशत तक की गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। हालांकि, 2024 की शुरुआत से लेकर अभी तक चांदी की कीमत में सोने और चांदी पर लगने वाली इयूटी में हुई कटौती को माना जा रहा है। जानकारों का मानना है कि इस कटौती की वजह से एमसीएक्स पर 2 दिन के कारोबार में ही सोना और चांदी दोनों के भाव में 4.8 प्रतिशत से लेकर 6 प्रतिशत तक की गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। इसके साथ ही चीन से सोने की मांग में कमी आने की वजह से भी अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में इस चमकीली धातु में कमजोरी आ गई है। कॉमेक्स पर सोना फिलहाल 2,380 डॉलर प्रति औंस से नीचे चला गया है। इसी तरह चांदी की कीमत भी 28 डॉलर प्रति औंस से नीचे गिर गई है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में आई इस कमी का असर भी एमसीएक्स में सोना और चांदी के वायदा कारोबार पर पड़ रहा है।

शुरुआत से लेकर अभी तक अमेरिका के वायदा बाजार में चांदी की कीमत में 17 प्रतिशत तक की तेजी आ चुकी है। भारत में सोने और चांदी की कीमत में आई गिरावट की एक बड़ी वजह बजट में सोने और चांदी पर लगने वाली इयूटी में हुई कटौती को माना जा रहा है। जानकारों का मानना है कि इस कटौती की वजह से एमसीएक्स पर 2 दिन के कारोबार में ही सोना और चांदी दोनों के भाव में 4.8 प्रतिशत से लेकर 6 प्रतिशत तक की गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। इसके साथ ही चीन से सोने की मांग में कमी आने की वजह से भी अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में इस चमकीली धातु में कमजोरी आ गई है। कॉमेक्स पर सोना फिलहाल 2,380 डॉलर प्रति औंस से नीचे चला गया है। इसी तरह चांदी की कीमत भी 28 डॉलर प्रति औंस से नीचे गिर गई है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में आई इस कमी का असर भी एमसीएक्स में सोना और चांदी के वायदा कारोबार पर पड़ रहा है।

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। | क्रिप्टो करेंसी मार्केट में जबरदस्त दबाव बना हुआ है। मार्केट कैप के लिहाज से टॉप-10 में शामिल क्रिप्टो करेंसीज में से 9 गिरावट के साथ रेडजोन में कारोबार कर रही हैं, जबकि सिर्फ यूएसडी कॉइन ही मामूली बढ़त के साथ ग्रीन ज़ोन में कारोबार कर रहा है। बाजार में बने दबाव के कारण दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी बिटकॉइन 3 प्रतिशत से भी ज्यादा टूट कर 54 लाख रुपये के स्तर से भी नीचे आ गई है। इसी तरह दुनिया की दूसरी सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी एथेरियम भी पिछले 24 घंटे के दौरान 8 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा गिरावट का शिकार हो गई है।

भारत में क्रिप्टो करेंसी का कारोबार करने के लिए अधिकृत एजेंसी कॉइन मार्केट कैप से मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक भारतीय समय के हिसाब से आज शाम 6 बजे तक बिटकॉइन 3.50 प्रतिशत की गिरावट के साथ 53.75 लाख रुपये के स्तर

पर कारोबार कर रहा था। इसी तरह एथेरियम की कीमत भी आज 8.49 प्रतिशत की कमजोरी के साथ गिर कर 2.65 लाख रुपये के स्तर पर आ गई थी। बिटकॉइन और एथेरियम

ओर, यूएसडी कॉइन 0.02 प्रतिशत की मामूली बढ़त के साथ कारोबार कर रहा था। कॉइन मार्केट कैप से मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक पिछले 24 घंटे के कारोबार के दौरान क्रिप्टो करेंसी के ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप में 4.48 प्रतिशत की गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। फिलहाल क्रिप्टो करेंसी का ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप घट कर 193.45 लाख करोड़ रुपये रह गया है। ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप में गिरावट के

बावजूद पिछले 24 घंटे के दौरान क्रिप्टो करेंसीज के लेनदेन में तेजी आई है। इस अवधि में कुल 7.09 लाख करोड़ रुपये की क्रिप्टो करेंसी की लेनदेन हुई, जो 1 दिन पहले की तुलना में 8.06 प्रतिशत अधिक है। अगर दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी बिटकॉइन की बात करें कीमत में गिरावट आने के बावजूद पिछले 24 घंटे के कारोबार के दौरान क्रिप्टो करेंसी मार्केट में इस आभासी मुद्रा की स्थिति 0.62 प्रतिशत मजबूत हुई है, जिसके कारण इसकी मार्केट हिस्सेदारी बढ़ कर 54.87 प्रतिशत हो गई है।

अमेज़न प्राइम डे पर एक मिनट में 24196 आर्डर

नई। ई-कॉमर्स कंपनी अमेज़न इंडिया ने बृहस्पतिवार को कहा कि पिछले सप्ताह सालाना बिक्री उत्सव 'प्राइम डे' के अठ्ठे संस्करण में खरीदारों की सर्वाधिक भागीदारी देखने को मिली जिसमें हर मिनट करीब 24,000 आर्डर किए गए। कंपनी ने एक बयान में कहा कि 20-21 जुलाई को आयोजित सेल के दौरान ग्राहकों की भागीदारी ने इसे भारत में अब तक का सबसे बड़ा 'प्राइम डे' आयोजन बना दिया है। अमेज़न ने कहा कि इस खरीदारी उत्सव में 'प्राइम' सदस्यता वाले ग्राहकों की सबसे अधिक संख्या देखी गई।

कोयम्बटूर में आयोजित इन्वेस्ट एमपी-इंटरैक्टिव सत्र मग्न को मिले 3500 करोड़ से अधिक के निवेश

एजेंसी भोपाल। मध्य प्रदेश में निवेश और औद्योगिक गतिविधियों के प्रोत्साहन के लिए भोपाल में 7-8 फरवरी 2025 को होने वाली ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टर समिट में तमिलनाडु के उद्योगपतियों को आमंत्रित करने के उद्देश्य से तमिलनाडु के कोयम्बटूर में रोड शो और निवेशकों व उद्योगपतियों के साथ इंटरैक्टिव सत्र आयोजित किया गया। मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. मोहन यादव की मौजूदगी में आयोजित सत्र में 1200 से अधिक प्रतिनिधियों ने भागीदारी की तथा मध्यप्रदेश में निवेश के लिए 3500 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक निवेश के प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए। इन्वेस्ट एमपी-इंटरैक्टिव सत्र में 20 से अधिक स्थानीय औद्योगिक संगठनों के प्रतिनिधियों ने सहभागिता की, जिसमें त्रिपुर एक्सपोर्टर्स एसोसिएशन, द सदर्न इंडियन मिल्स एसोसिएशन, द



साथ इंडिया स्पिनर्स एसोसिएशन, इण्डियन कॉटन फेडरेशन, द सदर्न इंडिया इंजीनियरिंग मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन, अपैरल एक्सपोर्ट प्रमोशन काउंसिल, इण्डियन टेक्सट्राइल फेडरेशन प्रमुख हैं। सेशन में औद्योगिक नीति एवं निवेश प्रोत्साहन, पर्यटन, सूक्ष्म, लघु

एवं मध्यम उद्योग, साइंस एंड टेक्नोलॉजी द्वारा अपने-अपने क्षेत्र में निवेश की अपार संभावनाओं पर प्रेजेंटेशन दिए गए। सेशन में कंपीआर रूप, शक्ति रूप, केजी डेनिम, लक्स इंडस्ट्रीज, बॉश्च सॉफ्टवेयर, वंडरला हॉलीडेय, शंकरा आई हॉस्पिटल्स, त्रिविज्ञान सहित 30

मिलाप कॉस्मेटिक्स अब मिला ब्यूटी नाम से ब्यूटी प्रोडक्ट्स करेंगे लॉन्च

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। | भारत के ब्यूटी ब्रांड्स को लॉन्च करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने वाले साहिल नायर अपने नए वेंचर मिला ब्यूटी (पहले मिलाप कॉस्मेटिक्स के नाम से मशहूर) को लॉन्च करने के लिए तैयार हैं। मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर एवं को-फाउंडर के रूप में, साहिल भारतीय सौंदर्य उद्योग को नए सिरे से परिभाषित करते हुए मिला ब्यूटी का नेतृत्व करेंगे। साहिल भारतीय उपभोक्ताओं की अलग-अलग जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किए गए बेहतरीन गुणवत्ता वाले अभिनव और टॉक्सिन-फ्री मेकअप प्रॉडक्ट्स लेकर आएंगे। साहिल ने सचिन चड्ढा और केशव चड्ढा के साथ एक रणनीतिक साझेदारी की है, जो मिलाप कॉस्मेटिक्स के को-फाउंडर और डायरेक्टर थे, जिसका नाम अब मिला ब्यूटी हो गया है। मिला ब्यूटी के मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर एवं को-फाउंडर साहिल नायर ने कहा, मिला

ब्यूटी रोजाना की लागत पर खूबसूरत बढ़ाने के लिए मशहूर है। अपनी उत्पादन क्षमताओं का विस्तार करके और अपनी रिटेल उपस्थिति का विस्तार करके हम प्रीमियम सौंदर्य उत्पादों को सभी तक पहुंचाने के लिए समर्पित हैं। उद्योग के दिग्गजों सचिन और केशव चड्ढा के साथ साझेदारी हमें आत्मविश्वास और विशेषज्ञता के साथ आगे बढ़ने में सक्षम बनाती है। साथ मिलकर हम ऐसा मेकअप बनाना चाहते हैं, जो आपसे शुरू हो और आपके

व्यक्तित्व का जश्न मनाए। 'ब्यूटी बिगिनस विद यू' सिर्फ हमारी टैगलाइन नहीं है बल्कि हमारे उपभोक्ताओं से किया गया हमारा वादा है। उन्होंने कहा कि घरेलू मेकअप प्रोडक्ट्स के उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मानेसर में 36,000 वर्ग फुट की फैक्टरी स्थापित की जाएगी। अभी देशभर में 10,000 रिटेल काउंटरर्स मौजूद हैं और साहिल नायर ने इस संख्या को दोगुना करके 20,000 तक पहुंचाने की योजना बनाई है।



छह महीने में व्यापक समीक्षा के साथ संशोधित प्रत्यक्ष कर संहिता लाएगी सरकार : राजस्व सचिव

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। वित्त मंत्रालय के राजस्व सचिव संजय मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि केंद्र सरकार प्रत्यक्ष कर संहिता की व्यापक समीक्षा की दिशा में काम कर रही है। इसके आंतरिक समिति के द्वारा तैयार किया जाएगा, फिर अंतिम छह महीनों के भीतर हितधारकों के परामर्श के लिए साझा किया जाएगा। संजय मल्होत्रा ने यहां केंद्रीय बजट 2024-25 पर भारतीय वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग महासंघ (फिक्की) के एक संवादात्मक सत्र को संबोधित करते हुए यह बात कही। उन्होंने कहा कि हमारे पास परामर्श प्रक्रिया होगी और यह कैसे होगा, यह

हम तय करेंगे। राजस्व सचिव ने कहा कि इस कार्यान्वयन के लिए एक सहयोगात्मक दृष्टिकोण अपनाना मुक्त, सरल और सहयोगात्मक दृष्टिकोण अपनाने के लिए प्रयास जारी रखेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि कराधान के प्रति हमारा दृष्टिकोण हमेशा सहयोग की शैली में रहा है, जो आगे भी रहेगा, टकराव की नहीं। राजस्व सचिव ने कहा कि नीतिगत और क्रियान्वयन दोनों ही दृष्टि से हमारे प्रस्तावों का उद्देश्य हां से भी कर देय है, वहां से कर को एकत्र करना है, लेकिन ऐसा इस तरह से करना है कि करदाताओं को सम्मान और विश्वास मिले तथा कर संग्रह सहज और पेशानी रहित तरीके से हो। केंद्रीय बजट 2024-25 के व्यापक विषयों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि बजट

मार्केट में जबरदस्त दबाव बना हुआ है। मार्केट कैप के लिहाज से टॉप-10 में शामिल क्रिप्टो करेंसीज में से 9 गिरावट के साथ रेडजोन में कारोबार कर रही हैं, जबकि सिर्फ यूएसडी कॉइन ही मामूली बढ़त के साथ ग्रीन ज़ोन में कारोबार कर रहा है। बाजार में बने दबाव के कारण दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी बिटकॉइन 3 प्रतिशत से भी ज्यादा टूट कर 54 लाख रुपये के स्तर से भी नीचे आ गई है। इसी तरह दुनिया की दूसरी सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी एथेरियम भी पिछले 24 घंटे के दौरान 8 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा गिरावट का शिकार हो गई है।

भारत में क्रिप्टो करेंसी का कारोबार करने के लिए अधिकृत एजेंसी कॉइन मार्केट कैप से मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक भारतीय समय के हिसाब से आज शाम 6 बजे तक बिटकॉइन 3.50 प्रतिशत की गिरावट के साथ 53.75 लाख रुपये के स्तर

पर कारोबार कर रहा था। इसी तरह एथेरियम की कीमत भी आज 8.49 प्रतिशत की कमजोरी के साथ गिर कर 2.65 लाख रुपये के स्तर पर आ गई थी। बिटकॉइन और एथेरियम

आधार पर 52 फीसदी का उछाल दर्ज किया गया। ऑपरेटिंग रेवेन्यू 32फसदी उछल के साथ 1133 करोड़ रुपए रहा. ऑपरेटिंग प्रॉफिट 41फसदी उछल के साथ 431 करोड़ रुपए रहा. यह शेयर करीब दो फीसदी की तेजी के साथ 578 रुपए में सबसे ज्यादा है. इसमें अंदर कॉर्पोरेट्स इनकम भी शामिल है. कंसोलिडेटेड मुनाफे में सालाना



एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। बाजार बंद होने के बाद दिग्गज स्टॉक ब्रोकिंग कंपनी मोतीलाल ओसवाल ने पहली तमाही का रिजल्ट जारी किया है। सीमा में कंपनी ने 1021 करोड़ का मुनाफा दर्ज किया जो किसी भी तिमाही में सबसे ज्यादा है. इसमें अंदर कॉर्पोरेट्स इनकम भी शामिल है. कंसोलिडेटेड मुनाफे में सालाना

क्रिप्टो करेंसी मार्केट में हड़कंप, बिटकॉइन लुढ़क कर 54 लाख के स्तर से भी नीचे आया

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। | क्रिप्टो करेंसी मार्केट में जबरदस्त दबाव बना हुआ है। मार्केट कैप के लिहाज से टॉप-10 में शामिल क्रिप्टो करेंसीज में से 9 गिरावट के साथ रेडजोन में कारोबार कर रही हैं, जबकि सिर्फ यूएसडी कॉइन ही मामूली बढ़त के साथ ग्रीन ज़ोन में कारोबार कर रहा है। बाजार में बने दबाव के कारण दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी बिटकॉइन 3 प्रतिशत से भी ज्यादा टूट कर 54 लाख रुपये के स्तर से भी नीचे आ गई है। इसी तरह दुनिया की दूसरी सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी एथेरियम भी पिछले 24 घंटे के दौरान 8 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा गिरावट का शिकार हो गई है।

भारत में क्रिप्टो करेंसी का कारोबार करने के लिए अधिकृत एजेंसी कॉइन मार्केट कैप से मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक भारतीय समय के हिसाब से आज शाम 6 बजे तक बिटकॉइन 3.50 प्रतिशत की गिरावट के साथ 53.75 लाख रुपये के स्तर

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ओर, यूएसडी कॉइन 0.02 प्रतिशत की मामूली बढ़त के साथ कारोबार कर रहा था। कॉइन मार्केट कैप से मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक पिछले 24 घंटे के कारोबार के दौरान क्रिप्टो करेंसी के ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप में 4.48 प्रतिशत की गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। फिलहाल क्रिप्टो करेंसी का ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप घट कर 193.45 लाख करोड़ रुपये रह गया है। ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप में गिरावट के



केनरा बैंक को पहली तिमाही में 3,905 करोड़ रुपये का हुआ मुनाफा

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के केनरा बैंक ने चालू वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 की पहली तिमाही (अप्रैल-जून) के नतीजे का ऐलान कर दिया है। अप्रैल-जून तिमाही में बैंक का मुनाफा 10 फीसदी बढ़कर 3,905 करोड़ रुपये पर पहुंच गया



आय बढ़कर 34,020 करोड़ रुपये हो गई, जबकि इससे पिछले वित्त वर्ष की समान तिमाही में यह 29,823 करोड़ रुपये थी। इस दौरान बैंक की ब्याज आय बढ़कर 28,701 करोड़ रुपये हो गई, जो पिछले वित्त वर्ष की इसी तिमाही में 25,004 करोड़ रुपये रही थी।

बैंक के मुताबिक उसकी शुद्ध ब्याज आय छह फीसदी बढ़कर 9,166 करोड़ रुपये हो गई है, जबकि पिछले वित्त वर्ष की इसी तिमाही में यह 8,666 करोड़ रुपये थी। बैंक का शुद्ध ब्याज मार्जिन (एनआईएम) 3.05 फीसदी से घटकर 2.90 फीसदी हो गया है।

केनरा बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) के. सत्यनारायण राजू ने कहा कि भविष्य में एनआईएम में सुधार होने की उम्मीद है, जो 2.95 फीसदी पर पहुंच जाएगा। उन्होंने बताया कि निदेशक मंडल ने चालू वित्त वर्ष में 8,500 करोड़ रुपये जुटाने की मंजूरी दी है।

केनरा बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) के. सत्यनारायण राजू ने कहा कि भविष्य में एनआईएम में सुधार होने की उम्मीद है, जो 2.95 फीसदी पर पहुंच जाएगा। उन्होंने बताया कि निदेशक मंडल ने चालू वित्त वर्ष में 8,500 करोड़ रुपये जुटाने की मंजूरी दी है।



जीवन में थोड़ी-सी हंसी-खुशी, चुटीलापन और जिंदादिली लाने के लिए हम आये दिन अपनों से हल्का-फुल्का मजाक करते रहते हैं। इससे हमारे रिश्तों में प्यार और गहरा हो जाता है। पर हंसी-मजाक के इस सिलसिले में कई बार अनजाने में ही हमारा मजाक सामने वाले का दिल दुखा जाता है, जबकि हमारा उस तरफ न तो ध्यान होता है और न ऐसा इरादा..

# महंगा न पड़ जाये हंसी-मजाक

हंसी-मजाक की आदत सिर्फ हमारे तनाव को ही दूर नहीं करती, बल्कि यह हमारे रिश्तों को भी खुशनुमा बनाये रखती है। हंसने-हंसाने की आदत के चलते रोशनी अपने परिवार में सबकी चहेती है। दोस्तों में भी सब उसे पसंद करते हैं। कोई पारिवारिक आयोजन हो या फिर दोस्तों की पार्टी, सभी जगहों पर रोशनी अपनी इस आदत से लोगों का ध्यान अपनी ओर आकर्षित कर लेती है। सिर्फ रोशनी ही नहीं, बल्कि अकसर देखा जाता है कि लोग हंसने-हंसानेवाले व्यक्तियों से दोस्ती करना और उनके इर्द-गिर्द रहना पसंद करते हैं। मगर कई बार हंसी-मजाक के इस सिलसिले में हम उन दायरों को भुला बैठते हैं, जिन्हें पार करने पर मजाक को व्यंग्य बनते देर नहीं लगती। ऐसे में कई बार हम लोगों को खुश करने की बजाय अनजाने में किसी अपने के दिल को ठेस पहुंचा बैठते हैं। यदि आपको भी हंसने-हंसाने का शौक है, तो इस शौक से

जुड़े कुछ दायरों को समझना न भूलें।

## नजदीक आने का आसान तरीका

किसी अनजान की ओर दोस्ती का हाथ बढ़ाने और उससे अपनी दोस्ती को गहरा बनाने का सबसे आसान तरीका है, उसे अपनी बातों से हंसाना। बीए में पढ़नेवाली स्नेहा को अपनी सहेली अपराजिता से बातें करना काफी अच्छा लगता है। यूं तो स्नेहा की कॉलेज में और भी कई सहेलियां हैं, लेकिन अपराजिता का व्यवहार बाकी लड़कियों से अलग है। वह किसी की व्यक्तिगत बात को इधर से उधर करने की बजाय अपनी ही हंसने-हंसाने की दुनिया में रहना पसंद करती है। इस आदत के चलते कॉलेज के टीचर और अन्य छात्र भी उसको पसंद करते हैं। दरअसल, हंसी दो लोगों के बीच एक सकारात्मक भावुकता पैदा करती है। इससे

लोगों के बीच एक जुड़ाव पैदा होने लगता है। यदि कोई कहता है कि उसे किसी खास व्यक्ति के साथ रहना पसंद है, तो इसकी वजह यही होती है कि उस खास शख्स का साथ उसे हंसने-मुस्कुराने का मौका देता है। इसी तरह हंसने-हंसाने की आदत रिश्ते में नजदीकियां लाती है। मगर हंसी-मजाक के दौरान कई बार हम अपने मुंह से निकले शब्दों पर ध्यान नहीं देते और अनजाने में ही कुछ ऐसा बोल बैठते हैं जिससे मजाक को व्यंग्य में तब्दील होते देर नहीं लगती। और वह व्यंग्य सामनेवाले के दिल को ठेस पहुंचा कर रिश्तों में दूरियां पैदा होने का कारण बन जाता है।

## छवि खराब कर सकती है यह आदत

रिश्तेदारों की शादी में शामिल होना अपनों के संग हंसी-मजाक करने का सबसे अच्छा बहाना होता है। इसी आदत के जरिये कुछ लोग नये माहौल में बड़ी आसानी से आपके दोस्त बन बैठते हैं, तो कुछ लोगों के मजाक आपका मूड खराब कर देते हैं। खास तौर से नयी-नयी शादी होने पर ससुराल का माहौल आपके लिए

बिल्कुल नया होता है और वहां के लोगों के व्यवहार को भी आप नहीं जानतीं। ऐसे में ननद-देवर के मजाक जहां आपको हंसने-हंसाने के बहाने परिवार में घुलने-मिलने का मौका देते हैं, वहीं मर्यादा से बाहर जाकर किये गये मजाक न तो आपको पसंद आते हैं और न ही ऐसे मजाक करनेवाले व्यक्ति से ज्यादा बात करने का दिल करता है। न चाहते हुए बेतुके मजाक करनेवालों से दूर रहने और उनसे दूरी बरकरार रखने का मन करता है। पटना की नेत्र बताती हैं कि जब मैं शादी के बाद ससुराल आयी तो मेरे ननदोई जी अकसर मुझे अटपटे मजाक करके तंग करते। मुझे उनके मजाक जरा भी अच्छे नहीं लगते। न जाने क्यों उनके प्रति मेरे मन में एक नकारात्मक छवि बन गयी और मैं उनसे दूर ही रहने लगी। शायद उन्हें भी इन बात का अंदाजा हो गया, इसीलिए उन्होंने मुझसे मजाक करना बंद कर दिया। अब भी मेरा उनसे ज्यादा बात करने का मन नहीं करता। न जाने क्यों उनके प्रति मन में एक नकारात्मक छवि बन गयी है। यही लगता है कि अगर मैंने उनसे ज्यादा बातें की तो वे फिर से सीमा से बाहर जाकर बेकार के मजाक करना शुरू कर देंगे।

## खूब प्रचलन में है पॉर्लर एट होम

वैक्सिंग, ट्वीजिंग, थ्रेडिंग, फेशियल, ब्लीचिंग, मेनिक्चोर, पेडिक्योर, हेयर कलरिंग, हेयर कटिंग और स्टाइलिंग, बॉडी पैक, हेयर रिमूवल... अरे बाप रे! आखिर क्या-क्या नहीं करना पड़ता महिलाओं को। आजकल तो महिलाओं को खूबसूरत बनाने के लिए कॉस्मेटिक इंडस्ट्रीज भी जी-जान से जुटी हैं। आप देख ही रही हैं कि हर रोज कोई न कोई थैरेपी या एक्सपेरिमेंट बाजार में छाए रहते हैं, ताकि महिलाओं को बुढ़ापा न छू पाए। और अगर बुढ़ापा है तो उसे किस तरह छुपाया जाए, मस्कारा या नेल पॉलिश कैसे बेहतर बनाई जाए, त्वचा और बालों की देखभाल किस तरह से हो वगैरह-वगैरह। फलों और फूलों वाली क्रीम और भी न जाने क्या-क्या चीजें बाजार में भरी पड़ी हैं।

तो देखा आपने इतना सारा तामझाम करना पड़ता है महिलाओं को। यहां सोचने वाली बात यह है कि नौकरिपेशा महिलाएं स्वयं के लिए किस तरह से मैनेज करती हैं यह सबकुछ। आखिर ऑफिस, घर, बच्चों की देखभाल के बीच खुद के लिए समय



निकालकर ब्यूटी पॉर्लर में जाना काफी मशक्कत का काम होता है। ऐसे में अकसर कई महिलाएं तो ब्यूटी पॉर्लर का रुख ही भूल जाती हैं। लेकिन शायद आपको जानकर हैरानी होगी कि कुछ महिलाओं ने अब इसका तोड़ ढूँढ निकाला है। अब उन्हें अपने सारे कामों के बीच ब्यूटी पॉर्लर जाने के लिए खासतौर से समय नहीं निकालना पड़ता और वह घर बैठे ही बन जाती हैं खूबसूरत।

आखिर क्या है यह तरीका, जानना चाहेंगी? जरा ध्यान दीजिए- अब आपको कहीं जाने

की जरूरत नहीं, अब आप ब्यूटीशियन को बुलाकर घर पर ही अपना ब्यूटी ट्रीटमेंट करवा सकती हैं। प्राइवेट फर्म में काम करने वाली प्रमिला बताती हैं कि, मैं पहले पूरी ट्रीटमेंट करवाने के लिए पॉर्लर जाती थी। मुझे पूरा एक दिन निकालना पड़ता था, जिसकी वजह से मैं कई दूसरे जरूरी काम नहीं कर पाती थी। फिर पॉर्लर में बैठे-बैठे मैं मोबाइल से फोन पर बात करके काम चलाती थी। इस तरह से निबटाए गए काम से मुझे कभी संतुष्टि नहीं हुई। लेकिन अब मैं महीने में एक बार संडे के दिन ब्यूटीशियन को घर पर ही बुलाती हूँ और वह मेरी पूरी ट्रीटमेंट कर देती हैं। समय की बचत करने से यह सबसे आसान उपाय बन कर उभरा है। इस तरह से ब्यूटीशियंस को घर पर बुलाने में करीब 1000 रुपये से लेकर 4000 रुपये तक का खर्च आ सकता है। ट्रीटमेंट की राशि इस बात पर निर्भर करती है कि आप किस तरह की ट्रीटमेंट करवाएंगी।

## एक दूसरे को हीनभावना से उबारें पति-पत्नी

पति-पत्नी गृहस्थी के दो पहिए हैं। एक-दूसरे के बिना गृहस्थी की गाड़ी नहीं चल सकती। ऐसे में आज की भागदौड़ भरी जिंदगी में किसी एक का हीनभावना से ग्रस्त हो जाना पूरे परिवार की गाड़ी में ब्रेक लगा देता है। हीनभावना का कारण चाहे कुछ भी हो परन्तु पति-पत्नी को एक-दूसरे की हीनभावना को दूर करने का प्रयास क र न।

चाहिए। कई बार महिलाएं समझ ही नहीं पाती हैं कि उनके पति हीनभावना से ग्रस्त हैं। इसके लिए उनके व्यवहार में आए बदलाव को नोट किया जा सकता है। यदि पति आफिस से आकर अपने कपड़े तथा जूते-मोजे इधर-उधर फेंक कर कमरा अस्त-व्यस्त कर दे तो समझ जाइए कि उन्हें आफिस में कोई परेशानी है। कई बार होता यह है कि आफिस में महिला बॉस आ जाए और वह सख्ती शुरू करे तो पुरुष उसे आसानी से सहन नहीं कर पाते। महिला बॉस की एक-दो डांट से ही पुरुषों के मन में हीनभावना पनपने लगती है।

कई बार पत्नी की खूबसूरती भी पति में हीनभावना पनपाने में सहायक होती है। हर कोई जब पत्नी की खूबसूरती की तारीफ करता रहे और पति को पूछे भी न और यह कहे कि तुम्हारी तो लाटरी खुल गई जो तुम जैसे को इतनी खूबसूरत पत्नी मिल गई। ऐसे में पति के मन में हीनभावना पनपना स्वाभाविक ही है। अपने पति को हीनभावना से निकालना आपका कर्तव्य है। पहले तो प्रयास करें कि ऐसे लोगों से दूर रहें जो आपके गुणों के कारण नहीं बल्कि खूबसूरती के कारण आपकी तारीफ करते हैं। अपने पति को यह एहसास दिलाना जरूरी है कि आपकी नजरों में खूबसूरती से ज्यादा गुण महत्व रखते हैं और आप उन्हें इसीलिए चाहती हैं क्योंकि उनमें सब गुण मौजूद हैं। उन्हें बताइए कि आप उनके कुछ गुणों को अपनाना चाहती हैं।

## मजाक में भी न सुनें गलत बात

दोस्तों की तरह ऑफिस के सहकर्मियों के बीच भी अकसर हंसने-हंसाने का सिलसिला कायम रहता है। मगर इस दौरान यदि कोई शख्स गलत बात बोल कर आपको हंसाने को कोशिश करे, तो उसकी गलत बातों पर हंस कर आप उसे बढ़ावा न दें। अपने अनुभवों के आधार पर दिल्ली की गौतमी कहती हैं कि मेरा एक कलींग ऑफिस आये दिन सबके सामने हंसते हुए यह कह देता कि गौतमी का क्या है ये तो फाइल के दो-चार पन्ने पलटती है और इसकी ड्यूटी पूरी हो जाती है। उसका यह मजाक एक बार तो मैंने सुन लिया, लेकिन जब वह अकसर इसी बात को दोहराने लगा, तो मु उस पर गुस्सा आने लगा। उसका मजाक भी लोगों को सच लगने लगा और बाकी लोगों ने भी मेरे काम का मजाक बनाना शुरू कर दिया। एक दिन सबसे साथ होने पर जब उसने अपनी इस हरकत को दोहराया तो मैंने उसे ऐसा करारा जवाब दिया कि सब के सब चुप हो गये। उसके बाद किसी ने मुझसे ऐसा मजाक नहीं किया। सच तो यह है कि कई बार हंसी-मजाक में बोले गये शब्द लोगों को सच लगने लगते हैं। ऐसे में सामनेवाले के गलत मजाक को रोकना काफी जरूरी हो जाता है।



## इतना भी हल्का नहीं होता मजाक उड़ाना

मजाक, यह शब्द बोलने में जितना हल्का लगता है, असल में उतना हल्का होता नहीं। कई बार अनजाने में हंसी-मजाक में कहे शब्द किसी अपने के दिल को इतनी गहरी चोट पहुंचा देते हैं कि वह आपसे बात ही नहीं करना चाहता। जब हमें हकीकत मालूम होता है तो शर्मिंदगी महसूस होती है। इसलिए मजाक चाहे आप खुद कर रही हों या कोई आप से कर रहा हो, हमेशा जुबान पर संतुलन रखना चाहिए। अपनी हंसी-मजाक की आदत को बरकरार जरूर रखें, लेकिन किसी से मजाक करने से पहले उसकी भावनाओं को ध्यान में रखें और उसे पूरा सम्मान दें। किसी का दिल दुखानेवाला मजाक न करें। मजाक ऐसा करें कि दूसरा इनसान अपने गमों को भुला कर दो पल खुशी के साथ जी सके। आप माहौल को खुशनुमा बनायेंगे, तो सब आपकी तारीफ करेंगे और आपको महफिल की जान समझेंगे। अच्छे मजाक लोगों को पास लाते हैं, जबकि व्यंग्य के लिए किये गये मजाक दूरी का कारण बनते हैं। कभी-कभी अपना ही मजाक बिना वजह बात का बतंगड़ बन जाता है। अतः मजाक हमेशा मर्यादा में रह कर ही करें।

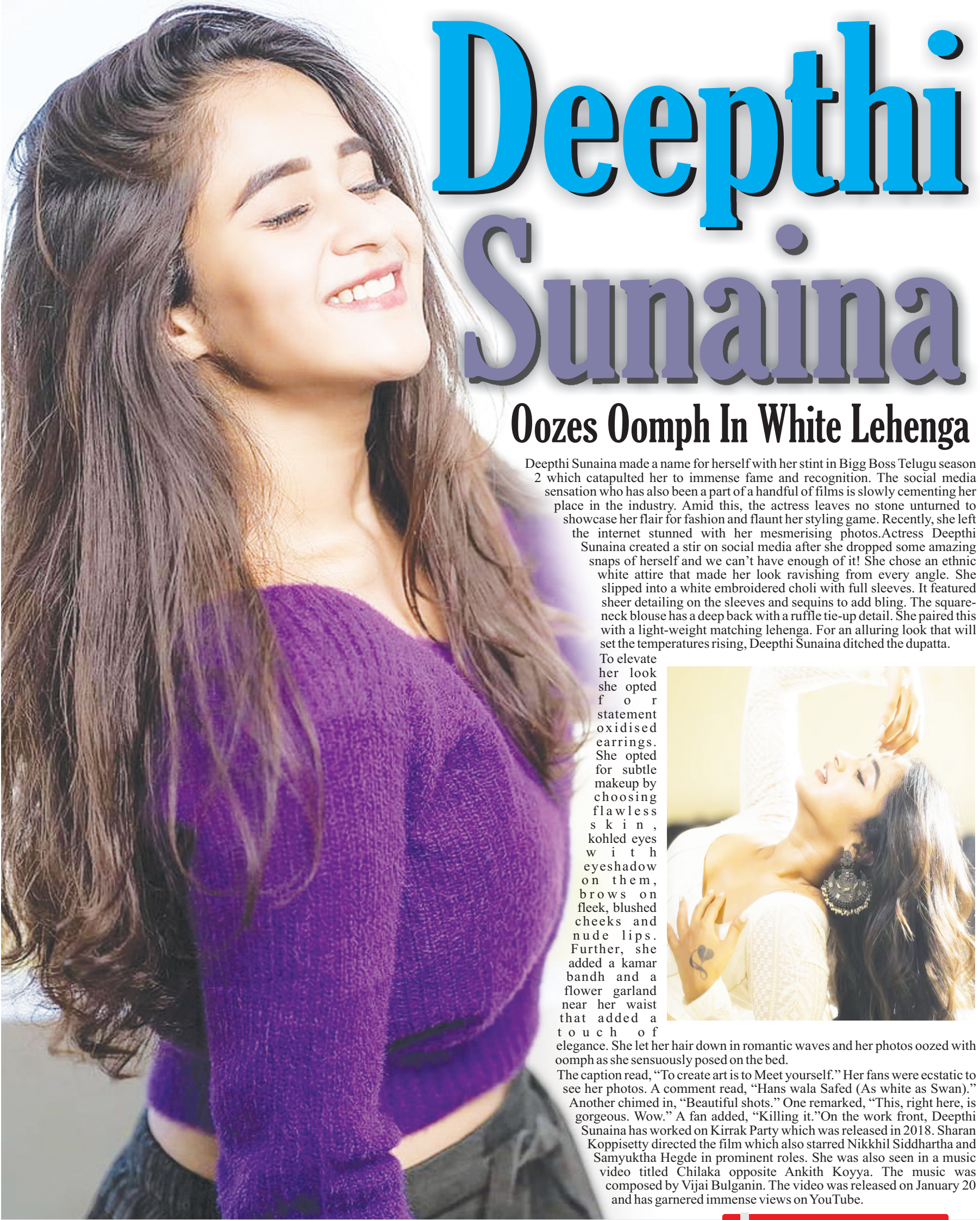
कई बार महिलाएं समझ ही नहीं पाती हैं कि उनके पति हीनभावना से ग्रस्त हैं। इसके लिए उनके व्यवहार में आए बदलाव को नोट किया जा सकता है। यदि पति आफिस से आकर अपने कपड़े तथा जूते-मोजे इधर-उधर फेंक कर कमरा अस्त-व्यस्त कर दे तो समझ जाइए कि उन्हें आफिस में कोई परेशानी है।

पति की उदासीनता के कई कारण माने गए हैं पर सबसे बड़ा कारण अहं होता है। जब किसी आदमी के अहं को ठेस पहुंचती है तो वह या तो दुनिया से स्वयं को काट लेता है या दुनिया पर हावी हो जाने की कोशिश करता है। जो व्यक्ति हावी हो जाता है वह अपनी हीनभावना की कड़वाहट को प्रसिद्धि पाने के प्रयास में उपयोग कर लेता है और जो व्यक्ति स्वयं को दुनिया से अलग कर एक खोल में बंद हो जाता है उसका व्यक्तित्व ही समाप्त हो जाता है। कई बार पत्नी की शोहरत से ईर्ष्या कर के भी पति के मन में हीनभावना आ जाती है। पति के मन में यदि हीनभावना घर कर जाए तो वह आपको नजरअंदाज तो करेगा ही और बच्चों की तरफ भी ज्यादा नहीं झुकेगा। निश्चय ही वह अपने लिए बाहर कोई सहारा तलाश करेगा। यदि आप पत्नी होकर पति से अपने बंधे व अन्य खास बातें याद रखने को कहती हैं तो पत्नी होकर आपका भी दायित्व बनता है कि आप पति के साथ कदम से कदम मिला कर दौलत जीवन को सफल बनाएं न कि पति के हीनभावना से ग्रस्त होने पर उनका दामन छोड़ कर मायके न चली जाएं। पति-पत्नी दोनों के ही कुछ कर्तव्य होते हैं। जब आपको पति ने कुछ हक दिए हैं तो उसी के साथ आपके कुछ कर्तव्य भी हैं जिनका पालन करना आपके लिए बेहद जरूरी है। आपको चाहिए कि पति की हीनभावना दूर करने के लिए भरसक प्रयास करें।









# Deepthi Sunaina

## Oozes Oomph In White Lehenga

Deepthi Sunaina made a name for herself with her stint in Bigg Boss Telugu season 2 which catapulted her to immense fame and recognition. The social media sensation who has also been a part of a handful of films is slowly cementing her place in the industry. Amid this, the actress leaves no stone unturned to showcase her flair for fashion and flaunt her styling game. Recently, she left the internet stunned with her mesmerising photos. Actress Deepthi Sunaina created a stir on social media after she dropped some amazing snaps of herself and we can't have enough of it! She chose an ethnic white attire that made her look ravishing from every angle. She slipped into a white embroidered choli with full sleeves. It featured sheer detailing on the sleeves and sequins to add bling. The square-neck blouse has a deep back with a ruffle tie-up detail. She paired this with a light-weight matching lehenga. For an alluring look that will set the temperatures rising, Deepthi Sunaina ditched the dupatta.

To elevate her look she opted for statement oxidised earrings. She opted for subtle makeup by choosing flawless skin, kohled eyes with eyeshadow on them, brows on fleek, blushed cheeks and nude lips. Further, she added a kamar bandh and a flower garland near her waist that added a touch of elegance. She let her hair down in romantic waves and her photos oozed with oomph as she sensuously posed on the bed.

The caption read, "To create art is to Meet yourself." Her fans were ecstatic to see her photos. A comment read, "Hans wala Safed (As white as Swan)." Another chimed in, "Beautiful shots." One remarked, "This, right here, is gorgeous. Wow." A fan added, "Killing it." On the work front, Deepthi Sunaina has worked on Kirrak Party which was released in 2018. Sharan Koppisetty directed the film which also starred Nikkhil Siddhartha and Samyuktha Hegde in prominent roles. She was also seen in a music video titled Chilaka opposite Ankith Koyya. The music was composed by Vijai Bulgani. The video was released on January 20 and has garnered immense views on YouTube.



# Janhvi Kapoor

## Exudes Elegance In A Black Satin Blazer Dress As She Steps Out For Ulajh Promotions

Janhvi Kapoor is a fashion icon and slays in every outfit. From heavy gowns to floor-length ethnics and even plain casuals, the actress can carry off everything with grace. Janhvi has never shied away from experimenting with new fashion trends. Earlier this year, she was seen taking up method dressing to promote her film, Mr and Mrs Mahi. Now, the actress is acing the same with the promotions of her upcoming film Ulajh. Janhvi looked effortlessly glam in a black satin blazer, teamed with a body-hugging skirt. She tied her hair to a neat bun, and completed her look with well defined eyes. She flashed her million dollar smile, and was a complete vision to behold when the paparazzi captured her. She found the right balance between elegance and charm.



Janhvi Kapoor is staying very active in her career these days. Following the positive reception of her performance in Sharan Sharma's Mr and Mrs Mahi, where she starred opposite Rajkumar Rao, she is now preparing for her upcoming project, Ulajh. In this thrilling narrative, Janhvi Kapoor portrays Suhana, a young diplomat embroiled in a treacherous personal conspiracy during her crucial assignment at the London embassy. As she navigates the complexities of her career-defining role, she finds herself entangled in the weight of her legacy and in a web of deception, where every ally could be a foe.

Audiences can expect heart-stopping moments and edge-of-your-seat

drama as Ulajh unfolds its gripping tale of traps, conspiracies, and betrayals. With its captivating storyline and stellar performances, the film promises to be a cinematic experience like no other. Her upcoming film Ulajh, directed by Sudhanshu Saria, features an impressive cast including Gulshan Devaiah, Roshan Mathew, Adil Hussain, Rajendra Gupta, Rajesh Tailang, Meiyang Chang, and Jitendra Joshi in key roles. The thriller is set to hit theatres on August 2, 2024, produced by Vineet Jain and co-produced by Amrita Pandey. Ulajh is all set to release on August 2, 2024.



## Vijay Deverakonda Holds Rashmika Mandanna's Hands In Romantic Photo From 'Dear Comrade'



When Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna shared the screen in the 2019 romantic action drama, Dear Comrade, they left everyone completely impressed. Their chemistry in the film in the Bharat Kamma directorial was widely loved by the audience. Five years after the film hit theatres, a never-seen-before picture of the two actors from the sets has surfaced online which has left netizens in complete awe. In the photo, Vijay and Rashmika are seen lost in each other's eyes as they hold hands. While Vijay looks charming in a white shirt, Rashmika dons a blue saree and looks as pretty as ever. Check it out here:

Interestingly, Vijay and Rashmika are rumoured to be dating each other for a long time now. In April this year, they reportedly celebrated Rashmika Mandanna's birthday together in Abu Dhabi. Even though the actors did not confirm their vacation, netizens noticed that Vijay Deverakonda dropped a video on his Instagram stories from the same location from where Rashmika also shared her pictures. Prior to this, the rumoured couple's trip to the Maldives fuelled speculation about a possible marriage announcement. It was also said that Vijay and Rashmika would get exchanged soon.

However, the Kushi actor later clarified that he was neither getting engaged nor getting married. "I'm not getting engaged or married in February. It feels like the press just wants to get me married every two years. I hear this rumour every year. They're just walking around waiting to catch me and get me married," he told Lifestyle Asia.

Besides this, Vijay was promoting Family Star when he was asked about his "romantic relationships". The actor decided not to address dating rumours with Rashmika but rather said he is in a relationship with his parents and brother. "Yes, with my parents, with my brother, with you, and we all are in a relationship," he said. Meanwhile, Dear Comrade is not the only film in which Rashmika Mandanna and Vijay Deverakonda worked together. The two also shared the screen in the 2018 movie Geetha Govindam.

## Hardik Pandya REACTS for 1st Time to Natasa Stankovic's Post Amid Separation, Shuts Down Her Haters



Natasa Stankovic has shared her first Instagram post since her separation from Indian cricketer Hardik Pandya. The post includes heartwarming photos of her and her son, Agastya, having a fun-filled day at a theme park in Serbia. The post has drawn significant attention, notably from Hardik Pandya, who commented with a red heart emoji, followed by an evil eye, heart eyes, and an okay hand emoji. This show of support from Hardik comes at a time when Natasa has been facing unwarranted online hate since their joint announcement of separation. Amid the negative comments, a wave of supportive messages has also emerged. One user wrote, "Stop spreading hate about her. Even Hardik is not showing any kind of hate. It's their personal life; it's their personal decision to get separated. So just don't get into it." Another commented, "Ma'am stay strong, my prayers are with you and your son."

Natasa, who left Mumbai for her hometown in Serbia last week with Agastya, seems to be finding solace and strength in her family and friends during this challenging time. The adorable post comes shortly after Natasa and Hardik issued a joint statement confirming their separation. "After 4 years of being together, Hardik and I have decided to mutually part ways. We tried our best together and gave it our all, and we believe this is in the best interest for the both of us," the statement read. "This was a tough decision for us to make, given the joy, mutual respect, and companionship we enjoyed together and as we grew a family."

Emphasising their commitment to co-parenting, the couple added, "We are blessed with Agastya, who will continue to be at the center of both our lives, and we will co-parent to ensure that we give him everything that we can for his happiness. We sincerely request your support and understanding to give us privacy during this difficult and sensitive time." Natasa Stankovic and Hardik Pandya tied the knot on May 31, 2020. Their marriage, celebrated with both Hindu and Christian rituals, saw a renewal of vows in February 2023.