Vol : 01 Issue : 105, Page :08

Kodarma, Tuesday, 23, September 2025

PRGI-JHENG/25/A1088

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Goddess Brahmacharin

Maa Brahmacharini is the Goddess of Penance, the second form of Goddess Durga worshipped on the second day of Navratri. Her name, derived from "Brahma" (penance) and "Charini" (a female follower), signifies one who undertakes penance. Worshipped to gain strength, wisdom, self-control, and success, she is depicted as pure, serene, and often holding a rosary and kamandal (water pot). Her story involves the arduous austerities performed by Goddess Parvati to marry Lord Shiva, during which she subsisted on fruits, flowers, and eventually even lived without food and

#### BRIEF NEWS

Heavy rain, thundershowers forecast for Jharkhand till September 26

Ranchi: The India Meteorological Department has issued warnings of thundershowers, lightning, and heavy rainfall at isolated places across Jharkhand over the next five days. On September 22, thunderstorms with gusty winds (30-40 kmph) are likely at isolated places. Heavy rainfall is expected on September 23 in southern Jharkhand, while both heavy rain and thunderstorms are likely in southern and adjoining central parts on September 24.Similar conditions are forecast on September 25, followed by heavy rainfall in southern and central

## PM Modi's letter to the nation on GST Savings Festival, says, 'Buy Swadeshi, Sell Swadeshi'

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday extended Navratri greetings to the countrymen, urging them to embrace indigenous products and celebrate the "GST Bachat Utsay." In a letter to the nation on the occasion, he described the implementation of the Next Generation GST reforms, which began on September 22nd, as a historic step.

The Prime Minister stated that these reforms will reduce household expenses, facilitate business, and strengthen the economic position of every segment of society. Farmers, women, youth, businessmen, MSMEs, and the middle class will all directly benefit. He wrote, "These



reforms will increase your savings and make it easier to fulfill your dreams. Whether it's building a house, buying a car, or planning a family

vacation, it will all be easier now."

PM Modi also shared key features of the new GST structure. Tax rates are now divided into just two slabs-5% and 18%. Essential items such as food, medicines, soap, toothpaste, and insurance will either be tax-free or fall in the lowest 5% slab. Most items that previously faced a 12% tax rate have now been reduced to 5%. The Prime Minister praised shopkeepers and traders who are displaying reduced rates for customers by displaying "Before and Now" signs. He said that lower taxes and simpler compliance rules will strengthen small industries, traders, entrepreneurs and MSMEs and create a better business environment. He linked

these reforms to the vision of Developed India 2047 and stressed on strengthening selfreliance and local manufacturing. PM Modi said, "I appeal to our shopkeepers and traders to sell only Indian products. Let us proudly say that what we buy is Swadeshi. Let us proudly say that what we sell is Swadeshi."

The Prime Minister also appealed to state governments to improve the investment climate and encourage industrialization. Concluding his message, he wished all citizens a Happy Navratri and expressed hope that the GST Savings Festival will bring happiness and savings to people's lives and make every Indian family prosperous.

## 2 Top Maoists with 80 L Bounty Killed

#### **Agency**

Raipur: Two top Maoists carrying a bounty of Rs 40 lakh each were on Monday gunned down in an encounter with security forces in Abujhmad area along Chhattisgarh- Maharashtra border, police said.

The two slain Maoists have been identified as Katta Ramachandra Reddy and Kadari Satyanarayana Reddy.

Both of them were Central Committee (CC) members of the outlawed CPI (Maoist), police

Bodies of the two Naxals, along with several automatic weapons, were recovered at the encounter site in the Abujhmad forest falling under Narayanpur district in south Bastar of Chhattisgarh, Bastar inspector general of police P Sunderraj told this newspaper.

The encounter, which took place along the border of Narayanpur Gadchiroli (Chhattisgarh)-(Maharashtra) district,s was still underway till the last reports



"Preliminary identification of

the two slain Maoists confirmed them to be Maoists Central Committee (CC) members, Raju Dada alias Katta Ramachandra Reddy, and Kosa Dada alias Kadari Satyanarayan Reddy. Both the Maoist leaders carried a bounty of Rs 40 lakh each in Chhattisgarh", Narayanpur district superintendent of police Dandakaranya Special Zonal Robinson said.

K Ramachandra Reddy (63) had many Maoist names like Gudsa Usendi, Vijay, Vikalp and is a native of Karimnagar in

Telangana. He carried a bounty of Rs 40

Kadari Satyanarayan Reddy (67), who had Maoist names like Gopanna and Buchanna, is also a native of Karimnagar in Telangana and carried a bounty of Rs 40 lakh in Chhattisgarh. Both the slain Maoist CC members were active in the Committee for over three decades and were masterminds behind numerous violent incidents including 2010 Tadmetla ambush in which 76 CRPF

Three sentenced to life in Ranchi builder

jawans were massacred and 2013 attack on convoys of Chhattisgarh Congress leaders leading to elimination of its frontline leaders including Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) chief Nand Kumar Patel and his newly married son, and former minister and veteran tribal leader Mahendra Karma, who had founded the anti-Naxal civil vigilante force Salwa Judum.

Security forces have recovered one AK-47 rifle, one INSAS rifle, one Barrel Grenade Launcher (BGL), and a large cache of explosives at the encounter site, the police officer

"The decisive operations against the banned CPI (Maoist) have delivered a major setback to the organization. The Maoist cadres should now accept the reality that the Naxal movement is nearing its end". Mr. Sunderrai said. Chhattisgarh chief minister Vishnu Deo Sai hailed the security forces for neutralizing two top Maoist leaders in Monday's encounter in Abujhmad.

#### Illegal activities being carrying out under the protection of the DGP: Babulal

#### **DB** Reporter

Ranchi: Leader of the Babulal Opposition Marandi has once again targeted the state government and the Director General of Police (DGP). He said that at the behest of the Chief Minister and the state's illegitimate DGP, those looting the state are carrying out numerous illegal activi-

News reports indicate that Rajesh Ram, wanted by the Ramgarh police, who is currently out on bail, has been regularly visiting the DGP's office, but the police never arrested him.After Rajesh Ram was first Inspector arrested, Ganesh Singh spoke to the Bhurkunda police station in-charge. This is likely the same Ganesh who enjoys the blessings of the illegal DGP. In this? If not, which offimember of the illegal DGP's team of "illegal resource collectors."

Leader Opposition said that according to a viral audio, constable Ranjit Rana, posted at the police headquarters and considered close to the illegal DGP Anurag Gupta, tried to contact the same Odisha businessman from whom Rajesh Ram had allegedly extorted Rs 65 lakh.

This may sound like a movie script, but it's the truth. Rajesh, Ganesh, Rana, Deepak, and many other masterminds are merely actors in this grand plunder, carrying out their respective ille-



of the illegitimate DGP. Babulal said that the Chief Minister must be aware of my tweet dated May 1, 2025. If you've forgotten, please review it again and then tell me what his share is in these illegal extortions. There's talk of more than a hundred crore rupees being embezzled from the wealthy mafias from Chhattisgarh to NCR Delhi who were granted bail by failing to file timely charges in the liquor scam.

How much share did the

Chief Minister get in

other words, he is a key cers responsible for failing to file chargesheets did he take strict action against, and what punishment did they receive? Nearly 30 years ago, when technology hadn't yet developed, investigative agencies uncovered the fodder scam and secured severe punishment for the perpetrators. Now, technology has advanced significantly. How can you believe that you can loot as you please and always get away with it with the help of expensive lawyers? Write it down somewhere. Even if it takes some time, sooner or later you will be caught and punished for these massive scams.

#### Supreme Court Denies Relief $to\ Jacqueline\ Fernande {\color{blue}z}$

#### **Agency**

Jharkhand.

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Monday denied relief to actor Jacqueline Fernandez, refusing to interfere with a Delhi High Court order that had dismissed her plea to quash an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) in a Rs 200 crore money laundering case involving alleged conman Sukesh Chandrasekhar.A two-judge bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih told senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who represented Fernandez: "You withdraw this.



Come at an appropriate stage. That would be the better option. We will not interfere at this stage." Rohatgi argued that there was no allegation of assisting Fernandez Chandrasekhar in laundering Rs 200 crore. "I am a film star. This man is a con star, in jail, accused of impersonating ministers and senior government secretaries,".

### Kamal Bhushan murder case, two acquitted **DB** Reporter

Ranchi: The Ranchi District Court on Monday sentenced three accused to life imprisonment in the sensational murder case of prominent builder and land dealer Kamal Bhushan.

The court of Additional Judge Anand Prakash held Rahul Kujur, his father W. Kujur, and their associate Kavish Adnan guilty under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code. Two others accused in the case -- Rahul's mother Sushila Kujur and approver Munawar Afaq



-- were acquitted for lack of evidence.

The murder took place on May 30, 2022, when a 55-year-old Kamal Bhushan was shot dead in broad daylight near his residence in the busy Ratu Road area of Ranchi.

The incident shocked the

city, given Bhushan's stature as a well-known businessman with considerable influence in the real estate sector.

Investigations revealed

that the crime was rooted in a bitter family feud. Bhushan's daughter had married Rahul Kujur against his wishes, leading to tension between the father and son-in-law. Alongside this, disputes property and over finances further deepened the rift.

Police said Rahul not only sought control over his wife's family's wealth

but also feared that his powerful father-in-law might harm him. This allegedly pushed him to conspire in Bhushan's

murder. According to the charge sheet, Rahul, with the help of his close friend Kavish Adnan, executed the killing. On the day of the incident, W. Kujur --Rahul's father -- kept track of Bhushan's movements.

As Bhushan stepped out of his home, Rahul and Kavish ambushed him and opened fire, killing him on the spot.

## Babulal is scared of the popularity of Hemant gout: Vinod

#### **DB** Reporter

Ranchi: Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) General Secretary Vinod Pandey has said that the opposition is rattled by the growing popularity of the Hemant Soren government.

This is why lies and rumors are being used. He issued a press release on Monday, calling the allegations made by BJP state president Babulal Marandi and other leaders baseless.

is trying to defame the



Chief Minister and the police department by fabricating stories of loot and scam, which is a violation of democratic norms.

He clarified that the aim of BJP leaders is not to investigate corruption but to harm the stability of the government formed

with the mandate. He said Chief Minister Hemant Soren has always set an example of transparency accountability. Anyone with concrete evidence should provide it to the investigating agencies, but the BJP is merely misleading the public with press statements and social media posts.

Pandey hit back at the allegations regarding children's nutrition, saying that malnutrition in Jharkhand is a result of the long rule of BJP.

## India on its way to becoming a trillion dollar manufacturing economy

#### **Agency**

New Delhi: The momentum that India's manufacturing sector has gained over the past few years now signals a substantial industrial revolution. The country's manufacturing export engine is now operating in all directions, and its progress has accelerated amid broader global trade stability. India's total exports reached US\$349.35 billion between April and August 2025, registering an annual growth of 6.18 per cent. The total value of merchandise exports during the same period was US\$184.13 billion,



an increase of 2.52 per cent over trillion) by fiscal year 2026. the same period last year (\$179.60 billion).

Based on these strong indicators, it is clear that India's manufacturing sector has the potential to reach ?87,57,000 crore (US\$1 Furthermore, the sector could contribute over ?43,43,500 crore (US\$500 billion) annually to the global economy by 2030. This is considered a major step towards establishing India as a global

The recent 3.5% growth in the IIP in July 2025 indicates that

manufacturing hub.

India's industrial engine is running at full speed. Sectors such as basic metals, electrical equipment, and non-metallic mineral products have contributed significantly to this growth. However, India's industrial

growth story isn't limited to these sectors. Strategic sectors such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, and textiles are driving long-term structural growth and shaping India's global competitiveness.

Pandey said that Marandi





### Sharadiya Navratri Begins with Kalash Sthapana at Maa Mahamaya Temple in Maya Tungri

**DB** Reporter

Ramgarh: The auspicious Sharadiya Navratri celebrations commenced at the revered Maa Mahamaya Temple, located in Maya Tungri, Kankebar, with the traditional Kalash Sthapana performed on Monday amidst the chanting of Vedic mantras. The ritual was led by the temple's chief priest, Acharya Dinesh Pathak, assisted by Pandit Sanjay Pathak and Rahul Mishra. Devotees Damodar Mahato and his wife Archana Mahato served as Yajman (ritual hosts) for the Kalash Sthapana ceremony, which marked the beginning of the nine-day Navratri festival.



Worship of Goddess Durga's first form, Devi Shailputri, was conducted with devotion.

Situated at an altitude of 1100 feet above sea level, the Mahamaya Temple has been beautifully decorated for the

festival. From early morning, a large number of devotees began arriving for darshan and puja. Acharya Dinesh Pathak emphasized the spiritual significance of Navratri, a major Hindu festival where the nine forms of

Goddess Durga are worshipped each day. Daily rituals, bhajans, kirtans, and a grand Sandhya Aarti are scheduled throughout the festival.

Key contributors ensuring the success of the event include chief patron Ajay Nath Jha, coordinator Damodar Mahato, Bansidhar Gop, Vishnu Poddar, and many other trustees and villagers.

The Durga Puja Committee is actively led by president Chintaman Patel, vice president Yogendra Kumar, secretary Arvind Mahato, treasurer Praveen Kumar Sonu, and a dedicated team of members and volunteers.

Modi Government's GST Reforms a Festive Gift; Indigenous Products Key to Developed India: Manish Jaiswal

#### **DB** Reporter Hazaribagh: In a bid to

raise awareness about recent GST rate reductions announced by the Modi Government, the BJP Hazaribagh unit organized a public outreach campaign on Monday, just ahead of the festive season. The initiative was led by BJP District President Vivekanand Singh, with Member of Parliament Manish Jaiswal joining hundreds of party workers on the streets despite the scorching sun and

Starting from the MP



Seva Karyalay, the campaign moved through key market areas including Jhanda Chowk, Main Road, Pagoda Chowk, Guru Gobind Singh read Road, Congress Office Road, Bhagat Singh Chowk, and Malviya Marg, before concluding back at Jhanda Chowk. MP Manish Jaiswal personally interacted with shopkeepers and customers, informing them

about the revised GST rates and encouraging traders to implement the new rates effectively. Carrying placards that "Har Swadeshi, Ghar Ghar Swadeshi", he also displayed banners promoting indigenous products, urging citizens to support local manufacturing as a step toward a Developed India (Viksit Bharat).

## Sharadiya Navratri Begins in Dumraun with Worship of Maa Shailputri; Minister and MLA Attend Inauguration

Ichak: The Sharadiya Navratri celebrations commenced for the first time this year at the Dumraun Mandap premises in Ichak block with great enthusiasm and devotion. The event was formally inaugurated by State Minister Fagu Besra, MLA Amit Yadav, and JMM Central Committee Member Sunil Sharma, along with other digni-

The inauguration ceremony began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the guests, including Deputy Block Chief Satyendra Mehta, District Mukhia Association President Ranjit Mehta, Puja Committee President Pradeep Mehta, Secretary Rajesh Mehta, Treasurer Vinod Mehta, and Vice President Indradev

The religious proceedings were led by chief priests Anil Mehta, Santosh Kumar Mehta, Kaviraj Mehta, Lokan Mehta, Chhattu Mehta, and Nirmal Mehta, along with their spouses. The rituals began with the worship of Maa Shailputri, the first form of Goddess Durga, amid sacred

Pandey. Committee members informed that the Sharadiya Navratri festival will now be celebrated annually at Dumraun with similar devotion and community participation.

chants by priests Umesh Pandit,

Raju Pandit, and Akhileshwar

The event saw active participation

from local leaders and villagers, including Mukhia Manoj Kumar Mehta, Panchayat Samiti Member Santosh Kumar, Chanderika Yadav, Bablu Mehta, Anil Mehta, Suresh Paswan, Dhaneshwar Sahab, Jayprakash Mehta, Baldev Ganjhu, Chhoti Mehta, Arun Kumar Mehta, Naresh Prasad Mehta, Sanjay Kumar, Deepak Kulkarni, Rajendra Rana, Sunil Kumar Mehta, Gulab Kumar, Rahul Kumar Soni, and many others from the local community.

#### AISECT University Celebrates Chancellor Santosh Choubey's Birthday with Service and Sustainability

#### **DB** Reporter

Hazaribagh: AISECT University, Hazaribagh marked the birthday of its Chancellor, Mr. Santosh Choubey, on Monday with a unique celebration rooted in service, compassion, and environmental commitment.

The university administration, including Vice Chancellor Prof. P.K. Nayak, Registrar Dr. Munish Govind, Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Gaurav Shukla, and other senior faculty and staff, visited a local old age home to honor elderly residents by draping them with shawls and seeking their blessings for the Chancellor's well-being. In addition, a tree plantation drive was organized on campus, where faculty members, staff, and stu-



the environment. They expressed that celebrating the Chancellor's birthday through such meaningful acts reflected his values and life philos-

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. P.K. Nayak said, "Mr. Choubey has set inspiring standards in the field of education. His birthday is not just a celebration, but

Tata Power's MPL and Lok Bharati Launch Vocational

tive duty towards society."

Registrar Dr. Munish Govind added, "Chancellor Choubey's life is a perfect blend of education, service, and values. His vision emphasizes that education should reach the last person in society, fostering empathy and action."

Dr. Gaurav Shukla high-

lighted that the plantation drive symbolizes the commitment to future generations and aligns with Chancellor's belief in education through community engagement.

The celebrations concluded with the univercommunity exchanging sweets and offering prayers for Mr. Choubey's long, healthy, and inspiring life.

#### Grand Kalash Yatra Held at Pankri Barwadih **During Sharadiya Navratri Celebrations**

**DB** Reporter

Barkagaon : A grand Kalash Yatra was organized on the occasion of Sharadiya Navratri at Pankri Barwadih's Bhokta Sthan marking the start of nine days of religious festivities with devotion and community spirit.

The rituals began with Vedic chants and worship conducted by Acharva Ramashish Pandey and Shashikant Mishra, under the banner of the Ashwini Durga Committee. Following the puja, the Kalash Yatra was taken out with great enthusiasm and participation from hundreds of villagers.

Among the prominent participants were former MLA and Congress National Secretary Amba Prasad, former Minister Yogendra Saw, Mukhia



Devi. Mukhia Kailash Rana. and Chief Priest Rijhan along Saw, with Assistant Priest Baleshwar Saw.

The Ashwini Durga Puja Committee, led by President Dinesh Kumar, Secretary Hiraman Saw, and Treasurer Raju Kumar Rana, played a key role in organizing the event. Other active participants included Prabhu Ram, Santosh Kumar, Prem Saw, Omprakash Kumar Roshan, Ramchandra Kumar

Sunil Rana. Binod Kumar (Driver), and Naresh Kumar, along with numerous local officials and villagers-both men and women.

The yatra proceeded through the village with traditional music and chants, carrying sacred pots filled with holy water, symbolizing purity and devotion. The event marked a vibrant beginning to the Navratri celebrations in the region, fostering unity and spiritual enthusiasm among the residents.

#### Training Centre in Dhanbad to Empower 300 Rural Youth Courses offered **Assistant** include Entry

Electrician, Domestic Solutions Technician, Data Operator, designed to meet current market demands.

DB Reporter
Jamshedpur: In a major step towards rural skill development employment generation, Maithon Power Limited (MPL), a Tata Power subsidiary, in collaboration with Lok Bharati Education Society, has inaugurated a state-ofthe-art Vocational Training Centre in Nirsa, Dhanbad. The centre aims to train 300 youth from over 30 villages, providing 100% free, industry-relevant vocational courses.

This initiative aligns with the Government of India's Skill India and

# **VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE**

Aatmanirbhar Bharat missions and forms part Tata Power's Affirmative Action Policy to empower marginalized communitiesespecially Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, persons with disabilities, and women. Courses offered include Assistant Electrician, Domestic Solutions Technician, and Data Entry Operator, designed to meet current market demands. Training will

be delivered in modern

classrooms and wellequipped labs, with a focus not only on technical skills but also communication, discipline, and workplace readiness. The centre was inaugurated by Angshuman Chakraborty, CFO -MPL; Jayanshree Choudhary, Head C&M, MPL; and Mrityunjai Ray, Head -CSR, MPL, along with other CSR team members, marking the company's continued commitment to inclusive,

community-led development. Mr. Chakraborty said. "This centre reflects our

commitment to enabling self-reliance through quality skill development. With industrystandard facilities and expert trainers, we aim to empower youth for dignified employment and meaningful contributions to their communities."

Mr. Mrityunjai Ray added, "We are proud to offer this training free of

cost, removing financial barriers and expanding access to marginalized youth. This initiative opens doors to employment opportunities in Delhi, NCR, beyond."

The initiative is part of Tata Power's broader skill development efforts led by the Tata Power Development Skill Institute (TPSDI), which has trained over 3.4 lakh individuals in clean energy and allied sectors. TPSDI is accredited by NCVET and focuses on empowering youth and women through industry-certified cours-

This new training centre in Nirsa is a step forward in bridging the ruralurban divide and transforming local talent into a skilled workforce for India's future.

## Former MLA Amba Prasad Joins Kalash Yatra During Sharadiya Navratri Celebrations in Barkagaon

**DB** Reporter

Barkagaon: On the auspicious occasion of Sharadiya Navratri, traditional rituals began across various parts of the Barkagaon Assembly constituency with the installation of 'ghat' (sacred pots) and the commencement of Navahna Parayan Yajnas.

A grand Kalash Yatra (sacred pot procession) was organized to mark the beginning of the festivities, which saw enthusiastic participation from thousands of devotees. Former MLA Amba Prasad also took part in the Kalash Yatra and extended her warm wishes for Navratri to the devotees.



The former legislator participated in ceremonial rituals at multiple locations, including Salga and Pehra villages in Keredari Block, as well as Barwadih in Barkagaon, where large-scale Kalash Yatras were organized to begin the nine-day religious observance.

The event commenced from the puja pandals, where participants, led by priests chanting

Vedic mantras, fetched holy water from nearby riverbanks and carried it in decorated processions through the town. The procession concluded at the puja venues where the Kalash Sthapana (installation of the sacred pot) was performed, marking the formal start of the Navratri rituals.

Addressing the devotees gathered at the pandal, Amba Prasad said, "Navratri is a festival dedicated to the worship of divine feminine power. It symbolizes the triumph of truth over falsehood and good over evil. May Maa Durga bless everyone with

strength, peace, and prosperity."

#### Major Breakthrough by Navalsahi Police: Theft Gang Busted with Stolen Vehicles and Goods

**DB** Reporter

Domchanch: In a significant achievement ahead of Durga Puja 2025, Navalsahi police successfully cracked a major theft case, recovering stolen vehicles and goods apprehending while seven suspects. To maintain law and order and curb crime during the festive season, all police stations in Kodarma district were instructed to increase night patrols and monitor suspicious activities closely.

the night of September 21-22, during



a patrol near Khatoliya Crusher Mandi, police spotted three suspicious men on a motorcycle fleeing at high speed. The trio-Prabhu Malhar, Vishal Malhar, and Sachin Malhar-from Beko village in Kodarma were caught and found carrying burglary tools, batteries, nuts, and bolts. They confessed to stealing these items along

with the motorcycle, which they used for their criminal activities.

Further investigation led by Sub-Divisional Police Officer Anil Kumar Singh resulted in the arrest of four more accused-Mithilesh Malhar, Arun Malhar, Ramu Malhar, and Munna Malhar-from Lagunwa village, Hazaribagh.

# Historic Day in Jamtara: Minister Dr. Irfan Ansari Distributes Sarees, Dhoti, and Financial Aid to Thousands

#### **DB** Reporter

Jamtara witnessed a historic and heartwarming event on Monday as Health Minister and Jamtara MLA Dr. Irfan Ansari continued a beloved tradition by distributing sarees, suits, dhotis, and financial assistance to thousands of residents ahead of Durga Puja celebrations.

More than 40,000 women received sarees and suits, while 4,000 elderly men dhotis. given



Additionally, women were provided financial support to celebrate the festival with

joy and enthusiasm. The Furkan Ansari, and is being I will continue serving the streets of Jamtara transformed into a vibrant fairground, filled with cheerful crowds and an atmosphere of gratitude toward the minis-

The massive gathering caused traffic jams at several points, but efficient management by police and administration ensured smooth control. This tradition, now nearly 25 years old, was initiated by Dr. Ansari's father, upheld with dedication by Dr. Irfan Ansari.

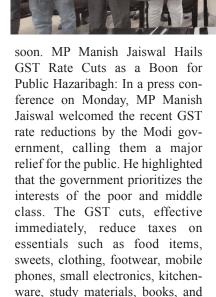
Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ansari said, "This event is not just a ritual but a responsibility. I am committed to following my father's footsteps in serving the people. Distributing sarees to poor sisters and sharing festival joy is my purpose in life. Public trust and the state's development mean more to me than politics, and people wholeheartedly."

Dr. Ansari's generosity is widely recognized across Jharkhand, as he regularly distributes clothes and blankets during festivals like Sohrai, Eid, and in cold weather. The overwhelming participation reflected the deep respect and affection the people of Jamtara have for their minister, making this Durga Puja truly memo-

### Second Phase of MP Sports Festival to Begin on September 23 in Hazaribagh

#### **DB** Reporter

Hazaribagh: The second phase of the MP Sports Festival in the Hazaribagh Lok Sabha constituency is set to commence from September 23. The initiative aims to provide a platform for local sports talent. Over 15,000 players participated in the first phase's 'Namo Football Competition,' which is still ongoing. The upcoming phase will feature multiple tournaments including cricket (November 10-28) across Kujju, Ramgarh, Barhi, and Hazaribagh; archery competitions in Ramgarh (Nov 12-13) and Hazaribagh (Nov 21-22); chess at Vinoba Bhave University (Nov 15-16); and kabaddi contests in Ramgarh, Mandu, Hazaribagh, Barhi, and Badkagaon (Nov 15-16). The football competition will continue from December 12 to 24 across Kujju, Ramgarh, Barhi, and Hazaribagh. MP Manish Jaiswal urged all sports enthusiasts to actively participate and make the event historic. Registration details will be shared



stationery. Several items have seen

tax rates drop from 18% to 12%,

12% to 5%, or have been exempted

entirely. Jaiswal said the decision will ease household expenses, boost small businesses, and stimulate the economy by increasing purchasing power. He added that the timing of the reforms before Navratri is an auspicious sign of the government's commitment to public welfare. Expressing gratitude to PM Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Jaiswal affirmed that these measures will strengthen the economy, promote employment, and bring relief to all sections of society. The event was attended by BJP district leaders, party workers, and prominent local representa-

### Awareness Raised Through Street Play in Kodarma to Combat Witch Hunting

#### **DB** Reporter

Kodarma: The Social Welfare Department of Kodarma, in collaboration with the NGO Jeevan Jyoti, organized a street play and musical program in the PVTG areas of Gajhari, Hathua Dharan, and Kodarma block office. The event aimed to raise awareness about the Witch Hunting Prevention Act, 2011, and to curb atrocities against women accused of being witches. The play informed the public about the legal consequences for those who harass women by labeling them as witches. Under the Act, offenders face a fine of ?2,000 and imprisonment of up to six months. In cases where such accusations lead to murder, the accused can be sentenced to death under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code.

The program was attended by local leaders including the head of Gamndi Panchayat, ward members from Hathua Dharan, and trainers from Kodarma. Artists



from Jeevan Jyoti-Rinki Upi, Hiranath Mahto, Sunil Kalindi, and Mantu Karmali-performed the street play, effectively conveying the message to the community. This awareness drive is part of ongoing efforts to eliminate the harmful practice of witch hunting and protect women from related violence in the region.

#### Water Supply Disrupted for Three Days in Sindri; Severe Water Crisis Amid Navratri Festivities

Sindri (Dhanbad)/DB Reporter: The water supply in Sindri town has been halted for the past three days due to a major pipeline burst. A 21-inch diameter main pipeline was damaged during construction work, causing a severe water shortage across the city. The incident occurred when contractors working on building a boundary wall at the Hurl Project site used an excavator to dig the foundation.



#### Guru Vasudev Mahto Honours Disciple Dr. Sunil Kashyap with His Latest Book

#### DB Reporter

Ramgarh: Renowned educationist and scholar Guru Vasudev Mahto honoured his disciple. Sanskrit scholar Dr. Sunil Kumar Kashyap, by presenting him with a copy of his newly authored book "An Approach to English Grammar via Khortha" at his residence Bengali Tola, Ramgarh.

While presenting the book, Guru Mahto emphasized the importance of linguistic integration, noting that connecting regional languages like Khortha with global languages such as English is essential. He stated, "English is an



international language, and this book aims to bridge the gap by presenting English grammar through the lens of Khortha, thereby aiding students and teachers, especially those preparing for competitive exams."

Dr. Kashyap expressed his gratitude, stating that the book offers a unique and simplified bilingual approach, making it particularly beneficial for students from class 7 up to postgraduate levels including those preparing for various competitive examinations.

Guru Vasudev Mahto, a retired educator, has previously launched 10 other books, many of which are currently part of school, college, and university curricula. His works have helped numerous students succeed in academic and competitive fields.

Even after retirement, Guru Mahto continues his dedication to writing promoting the Khortha language, serving as a source of inspiration for many.

#### Major Collision Between Bus and Truck on NH-23 Near Chhatar Mandu; Over a Dozen Injured



#### **DB** Reporter

Ramgarh: A major road accident occurred on September 22 near Barki Nadi. close to the Chhatar Mandu police outpost along NH-23 (Ramgarh-Bokaro route), where a passenger bus and a truck collided head-on. More than a dozen people, including both drivers, were injured in the incident. The impact of the colli-

the truck driver trapped inside the vehicle's cabin. took emergency responders nearly two hours to rescue him. His condition is reported to be critical. All injured passengers were immediately rushed to Sadar Hospital for medical treatment.

According to preliminary reports, the bus was traveling from Bokaro towards Ramgarh when it collided with an oncomsion was severe, leaving ing truck.

### Sharadiya Navratri Rituals Begin with Kalash Sthapana at Mata Vaishno Devi Temple in Ramgarh

#### **DB** Reporter

Ramgarh: The sacred Sharadiya Navratri celebrations began with great devotion and enthusiasm at the Mata Vaishno Devi Temple located at Jhanda Chowk, Ramgarh, on Monday. From early morning, a steady stream of devotees gathered at the temple to offer prayers. The rituals were formally initiated with Kalash Sthapana by temple priest Pandit Liladhar Sharma. Devotees Harsh Anand and his wife Nishu Anand served as Yajmans and performed the ritual under the



priest's guidance, marking the beginning of the ten-day religious observance. The temple premises have been beautifully decorated with flowers and lights, creating a spiritually vibrant atmosphere. By 5 a.m., the temple complex was packed with devotees chanting devotional slo-

gans, filling the air with d i v i n e energy.Considering the large influx of worshippers, the Mata Vaishno Devi Temple Trust, under the aegis of the Punjabi Hindu community, has made extensive arrangements for the convenience and safety of devotees.

## Sindri's Dilapidated Roads and Non-Functional Streetlights Worsen Public Woes

#### **DB** Reporter

Sindri: an industrial town known for HURL Sindri, ACC Adani Cement, KTM Peil, Tasra Project, and CEL, is grappling with severely damaged roads and nonfunctional streetlights. The situation has worsened during the rainy season as numerous potholes have filled with water, creating dangerous conditions for commuters, especially two-wheelers. Despite repeated incidents of accidents, repair work remains pending.

With major festivals like Durga Puja, Kali Puja, and Chhath approaching, the city's deteriorating infrastructure poses a serious challenge for devotees. Pandal preparations are underway, but navigating through the pothole-ridden streets remains a daunting task.



Roads built just months ago, costing crores, have already turned into pothole traps. Key routes including Sheharpura Veer Kunwar Singh Chowk, Church Area,

Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Shiv Mandir to Sindri Gurudwara main road, Kalyan Kendra to the main hospital, Rangamati DAV School, and Sindri-Jharia road are all in poor condition. During rains, these roads flood, resembling water bodies more than streets

Sheharpura's main market suffers from

constant traffic jams caused by disorderly parking of carts and shops. Illegal constructions continue unabated despite fiber block installations. Areas like Roda Bandh, Jhopdi Market, and Sheharpura Market face ongoing encroachments, raising questions about accountability.

Local residents, intellectuals, and social groups lament the city's stalled development since FCI Limited's closure in 2002. CSR funds from industries are reportedly diverted to district headquarters, leaving local needs unmet.

Although an MOU was signed on July 4 between HURL Sindri and the municipal corporation promising streetlight improvements, the work is yet to begin. Citizens fear that without timely action, accidents may increase.

# Not UKSSSC paper leak, viral on social media to sensationalise the examination system

UKSSSC graduate level examination in Uttarakhand has once again come under controversy. Three pages of the paper started going viral on social media 35 minutes after the exam started. Police and UKSSSC say that there has been no paper leak. The said screenshots were made viral on social media with the intention of sensationalizing or defaming the examination system. Two people have been detained in this connection. Police are engaged in search of Khalid Malik, who sent the question paper.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Ajay Singh and Chairman of the Uttarakhand Subordinate Selection Commission (UKSSSC) Ganesh Singh Martolia gave this information in a joint press confer-

**Dehradun, Agency:** The ence at the SSP's office late Sunday night. Ajay Singh stated that action has been taken on the discussions on social media regarding the exam. Two people have been detained in this regard. Based on the evidence gathered so far, there is no prima facie indication of an organized chain or gang. Police checking at the examination center is also being investigated. No one involved will be spared.

The Commission's Chairman stated that 154,000 candidates appeared for the exam. The integrity of the paper has not been compromised. The investigation is underway to determine where the lapse occurred at the Haridwar cen-

The SSP stated that an SIT was immediately formed based on information about screen-



competitive exam question papers being circulated on social media accounts. A request was also submitted to the Dehradun SSP on behalf of

He said that the preliminary investigation by the SIT revealed that before the commencement of the examination at 11 am, there was no report of paper photos first reached a

shots of photos of the written the question paper being leaked or leaked from any district of the state. After the paper was over, at around 1:30 pm, it was reported that screenshots of some questions from the paper being leaked at 11:35 am were being circulated on social media. When the source of the leaked photos was investigated, it came to light that the question

woman named Suman, who ration for her competitive exam. works as an assistant professor in Tehri, and she had sent back During police questioning,

the woman revealed that she

was an assistant professor at Amroda Degree Pratapnagar, Tehri Garhwal. In 2018, while she was employed as a tax inspector with the Rishikesh Municipal Corporation, she met Khalid Malik, a contractual JE with the CPWD. He was then overseeing the All-Weather Road project and a resident of Haridwar. The photo of the question paper was sent to her today from Khalid Malik's number, along with a message from his sister, claiming to be busy in a meeting. A young woman, claiming to be Khalid's sister, had asked her to answer the questions in prepaShe provided the answers via photo and saved screenshots of the answers on her mobile phone. The woman has written a petition to inform the police about the incident.

The woman stated that she informed Bobby Panwar about the incident and suggested going to the police. He then asked her for screenshots of the exam and told her not to inform the police.

Police say that without informing any competent authority about the incident, Bobby Panwar circulated the screenshots on social media to sensationalize the examination system. Other individuals also circulated these screenshots on social media accounts, posting objectionable comments against the government

## NHRC takes suo motu cognizance of death of a Delhi Importance of cleanliness sewer worker, seeks response within two weeks explained through street play

New Delhi, Agency: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken suo motu cognizance of the incident in which one worker died and three workers were seriously injured while cleaning a sewer in Ashok Vihar, Delhi on September 16, and has sought a reply within two weeks.

According to the NHRC, it received information from media reports that the four victims were sent into a sewer in the capital to clean a private construction site without providing any safety equipment. Subsequently, the condition of all four workers deteriorated, and several fell unconscious. Seeing their condition worsen, they were rushed to Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital. Doctors at the hospital declared one of them dead, while three others remained in the ICU in critical condition.

The NHRC termed this a serious case of human rights violation. The Commission stated that following the Supreme Court's order to ensure the safety of sanitation workers in all states, the Human Rights Commission has issued advisories. Such incidents are



regrettable.

The Commission has issued notices to the Delhi government, the Municipal Corporation Commissioner, and the Police Commissioner, requesting a detailed report after investigating the matter within two weeks. It has also demanded appropriate compensation for the victims. The manager of the private company is also being questioned in the matter.

#### **GOC White Knight Corps reviews** counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain

Jammu, Agency: Following recent encounters with terrorists, counter-terrorism operations are underway in the mountainous terrain of Udhampur, Doda and Kishtwar districts of Jammu and Kashmir. General Officer Commanding (GOC) of White Knight Corps, Lieutenant General PK Mishra, reviewed these operations on Monday.

The White Knight Corps launched a search operation on Friday evening after paying tributes to Lance Dafadar Baldev Chand, who made the supreme sacrifice during the ongoing operation on the night of September 19-20, at Kanji, Udhampur. The massive search operation is underway in the Seoj Dhar forest, connecting Dudu-Basantgarh in Udhampur district with Bhaderwah in Doda district.



New Delhi, Agency: To spread awareness about clean habits under the Hi Seva Abhiyan 2025', the Railway Board Cultural Team organised a cleanliness awareness cultural pro-gramme in the Vichar Auditorium of Rail Bhavan on Monday.

Chairman and Chief large number of railway Executive Officer of the employees were present.

Railway Board Kumar, Member (Finance) Usha Venugopal, Member (Infrastructure) Gulati, Director General (RPF) Sonali Mishra, Director General (Human Resources) R. Rajagopal, Director General (Safety) Rail Bhavan

Hari Shankar Verma and
Secretary, Railway Board
occasion, Aruna Nair along with a

## Manohar Lal appealed to come together for 'one day, one hour' for cleanliness on the birth anniversary of Deendayal Upadhyay

New Delhi, Agency: Union Housing and Urban Development Minister Manohar Lal has appealed to the people of the country to come together for 'one day, one hour' on the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay (September 25) during the Swachhta Pakhwada and work towards making the country clean.

In his post, Manohar Lal, while reminding the dream of cleanliness and independence of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi, said that the India that Bapu had dreamt of, did not only have freedom and independence but also envisioned a clean and developed nation. Therefore, on



the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay on September 25, 2025, come together for 'one day, one hour' and make your important contribution in making the country

Recalling the launch of the Swachh

Bharat Abhiyan in Prime Minister Modi's first speech from the Red Fort in 2014, he said that the slogan of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has now become a widespread and successful mass movement.

He described cleanliness as more than just a campaign, but the nation's identity. He said that the success of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has brought about a psychological change in the country's reputation, people's thinking about cleanliness, and society as a whole. The people of the country have not only adopted it in their own lives but have also made the country clean.

## **GST** reforms benefiting people from all walks of life: BJP



New Delhi, Agency: The Goods and Services Tax (GST) came into effect across the country today. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) described the new GST rates as a "Maha Bachat Mahotsav" (savings festival), saying that these reforms are benefiting people from all walks of life.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said in a press conference at the BJP headquarters on Monday that a "huge savings festival" has begun today. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to reform the GST has come into effect today. This has created a wave of happiness among the people. This will make almost every daily item cheaper.Countering the Congress, Vaishnav said that news is coming from every corner of the country that people are happy with the GST reforms, but our opposition allies are not happy with these savings. Naturally, during their time, there was only talk and no action. During the UPA regime, cement was taxed at 30 percent, compared to 18 percent under

the NDA. Sanitary pads were

taxed at 13 percent during the

UPA regime, but now it has been reduced to zero.

He said that during the UPA regime, footwear was taxed at 18 percent, which has now been reduced to 5 percent. During the UPA regime, refrigerators were taxed at 30 percent, which has now been reduced to 18 percent. During the UPA regime, detergents were taxed at 30 percent, which has now been reduced to 5 percent. Currently, our GDP is ?330 lakh crore, with consumption accounting for ?202 lakh crore. This consumption was ?181 lakh crore in the financial year 2023-24. This increase from ?181 lakh crore to ?202 lakh crore represents a growth of approximately 12 percent. GST reform is expected to lead to such a growth in consumption that GDP will increase by approximately ?20 lakh crore.

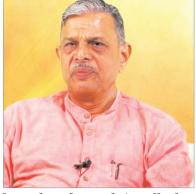
Vaishnav said that GST reform will also prove beneficial for farmers. The Prime Minister has brought the mantra of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" (Together with all, development for all). The government is committed to ensuring that its benefits reach the people.

## General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale will participate in the Vijayadashami celebrations in Ayodhya

Lucknow/Ayodhya, Agency: val will be organised in This year, the centenary year of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh will begin on the day of Vijayadashmi festival. Sangh's Sarkaryavah Dattatreya Hosbale will participate in the Vijayadashmi festival to be held on 2 October at Ramkatha Park in Ayodhya. On the day of Vijayadashmi, a procession will also be taken out by the Sangh from Ramkatha Park to the main entrance of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple.

Mahant Jayaram Das Maharaj, Mahant of Shri Ram Ashram in Ayodhya and City Sanghchalak of Ramlala Nagar, has given this information to News agency. He told that Vijayadashmi festiRamkatha Park on 2 October at 8 am. Two thousand volunteers from Ramlala Nagar and Ashok Singhal Nagar will be present in full uniform at this festival. RSS General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale will also attend the Vijayadashami celebrations to be held on October 2nd at Ramkatha Park and address the volunteers. The program will be presided over by Saint Ravindrakirti Swami, the head of the Bhagwan Shri Rishabhdev Janmabhoomi Digambar Jain Tirtha.

Mahant Jayaram Das stated that all monasteries and temples are being contacted. Uniforms are being prepared for the volunteers from the



branches located in all the settlements of both cities. It is expected that at least 50 volunteers from each branch will attend the program in full uniform.

Path Sanchalan will be held at the Mandal and Basti levels Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's

Regional Publicity Chief Subhash told News Agency that the RSS was founded by Baliram Keshav Hedgewar in Nagpur on Vijayadashami in 1925. Vijayadashami will mark the beginning of the centenary year. All volunteers will participate in Vijayadashami celebrations held across the country. On the occasion of Vijayadashami, the Sangh will organize processions at the divisional level in rural areas and at the settlement level in cities. Pathanchal programs will be held in province October 2nd to October 12th.

Social harmony meetings will be held at the block and

city levels.

## Editorial

## politics of intentions

We have already analyzed that India can never become Nepal, but a section of the opposition is inciting and provoking the youth to transform India into Nepal. It has even been said that the country's youth will save the Constitution, the country's students will save democracy, and 'Generation G' will fight against votestealing. The responsibility to save democracy, the Constitution, and the country lies with everyone, from the Prime Minister to the Leader of the Opposition to the common citizen. This cannot be achieved solely through a youth movement, because Indian youth cherish their democracy. According to a survey, more than 57 percent of citizens aged 18-35 are happy and satisfied with India's democracy. Approximately 71 percent of those aged 56 and older are happy and satisfied with India's democracy. The survey found no one unhappy with democracy, although some appeared to be semi-satisfied for some reasons. This democracy is also inherent in movements and protests. By and large, there is no concept of a "Gen G" young generation in India, whose violent movements could turn İndia into a "zero country." Nepal's interim Prime Minister, Sushila Karki, has had to painfully state that Nepal is in a "zero state." The violent uprising has indiscriminately burned the Parliament building, the Supreme Court, the Prime Minister's office and residence, and sensitive documents from various ministries, reducing them to ashes. Among them were original documents of treaties and resolutions. Does the opposition want to create such an India? If Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi is not responsible for protecting democracy and the Constitution, why has he been a Member of Parliament for 21 years and now the Leader of the Opposition? What narrative has he sparked with a pamphlet in hand for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections? In India, democracy and mandate exist only through elections. Everyone is within the ambit of the Constitution. The party that receives the mandate forms the government. That party rules the country constitutionally. This situation has been recognized by all parties and political parties. If we look at the mandates of the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections, young people in the age group of 25-35 voted 38-40 percent for the BJP and 19-20 percent for the Congress.

# Economic growth amid tariff challenges

Now, GST reforms have three major pillars. First, structural reforms. These have further improved the tax structure. Second, tax rates have been rationalized to make essential goods cheaper. Third, new registrations and refunds have been simplified. This will balance input and output tax rates. The GST registration and compliance reporting processes have also been simplified...

#### Dr. Jayanti Lal Bhandari

India's economy is certainly growing rapidly amidst the challenge of tariffs, and tax reforms will now appear to be boosting the economy's momentum. Recently, on September 19th, the world-renowned Japanese global rating agency, Rating and Investment Information (R&I), stated that India's economy is showing a growth trend despite the high tariffs imposed by the US on India. Consequently, India's sovereign rating has been upgraded by one notch to BBB+. Global credit rating agencies like S&P and Morningstar DBRS have also upgraded India's credit rating in the recent past. It is worth noting that while addressing the Emerging India program recently, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the new tax reforms are a big gift for every citizen of the country. These days, various reports are being published on the recent reforms and new systems implemented in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Income Tax, stating that these radical tax reforms will not only make life easier for the common man, but will also accelerate the country's progress towards becoming a developed nation. Regarding the changes made in GST and Income Tax, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that this is a double whammy of prosperity in the lives of common people.

Following the income tax exemption of up to ?12 lakh, the reduction in GST rates will improve household budgets, increase savings among ordinary citizens, and significantly boost the purchasing power of the mid-dle class. Finance Minister Sitharaman stated that the new

tax reforms could see India become the world's third-largest economy by the end of 2025-26. In this context, it is also noteworthy that on September 9th, global credit rating agency Moody's stated in a report that the reduction in tax rates in India will boost private consumption and strengthen economic growth. It is also significant that on September 10th, global credit rating agency Fitch raised its growth forecast for India for the current fiscal year 2025-26 from 6.5 percent to 6.9 percent. It is noteworthy that under the landmark GST reforms implemented on September 22nd, the existing four tax slabs of 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28% have been strategically revised and expanded to a twotier GST system with 5% and 18% slabs. However, a 40% tax slab has been implemented on some items categorized as harmful goods. The GST reforms now have three major pillars: first, structural reforms. This further improves the tax structure. Second, tax rates have been rationalized to make essential goods cheaper. Third, new registrations and refunds have been simplified, bringing balance to input and output tax rates. The GST registration and compliance reporting processes have also been simplified. Businesses can now register on the GST portal in just three days. Refunds will be issued within seven days. The difficulties faced in filing input tax returns due to differential rates for raw materials and finished goods have also been eliminated. It is noteworthy that GST reforms will significantly boost domestic consumption.

The middle class will spend money on purchasing products,

and increased demand will also boost private investment. The government also hopes that despite the annual revenue loss of ?48,000 crore, market activity will pick up, and the economy's momentum will easily offset the immediate losses. This will undoubtedly provide price relief for the common man and the middle class, increasing purchasing power and increasing cash flow in the market. Small businesses, worried about declining exports due to the Trump tariffs, will receive significant support from increased demand from domestic Furthermore, the reduction in GST will boost industrial production, ushering in a new chapter of demand, from the manufacturing sector to the service sector. It is estimated that the reduction in GST will increase consumption by approximately ?2 lakh crore and boost exports. This increase in demand and production will also boost GDP and create employment opportunities. Certainly, just as the central government has moved forward with radical reforms to GST, it is also moving swiftly to simplify and facilitate income tax. The Income Tax Bill 2025 has now become law after receiving Presidential assent. This law will replace the existing Income Tax Act 1961 and will be implemented from April 1, 2026. Essentially, the new Income Tax Act will not merely amend a few sections but will transform the entire tax system. This will usher in a new era of digital and simplified taxation in the country. This new law will eliminate the complexities of tax laws and create a system that is simple and beneficial to the average taxpayer, encouraging new taxpayers to pay income tax based on their income. Significantly, no changes have been made to the existing income tax slabs. The special thing is that till the year 2024, more than 4000 amendments and improvements have been made in the Income Tax Act of 1961 and it has more than 5 lakh

The new Income Tax Act, 2025, is a highly commendable step to simplify and make the complex Income Tax Act practical. The new Income Tax Act simplifies the old Act by approximately 50 percent. The new Income Tax Act simplifies the language, clarifies deductions, and strengthens cross-referencing between various provisions. The new Act removes ambiguities related to income from house property, including standard deductions and pre-construction interest on home loans. The new Act simplifies the tax law by halving its page size and removing irrelevant provisions.

Let us hope that the government will focus from the very beginning on the implementation of the new GST system and the two-slab tax system, which will come into effect from September 22nd, as well as the new changes under the new Income Tax Law, which will come into effect from April 1st, 2026, in such a way that crores of people in the country benefit from the simplicity of these laws and corruption is also controlled. Let us hope that the new important tax reforms under GST and Income Tax will prove to be of significant use in increasing the number of taxpayers, reducing tax complexity and litigation, and increasing tax collection.

# Challenges to tradition in changing times

Modernity, urbanization, and the climate crisis have directly impacted our religious traditions. When we consider the story of Bhavishya Badri and the recent disruption of the Manimahesh Yatra, it becomes clear that traditions are deeply connected not only to faith, but also to the environment and society. The message is profound: to keep faith alive, we must also maintain balance in life and responsibility towards nature...

#### Dr. Vikas Vaibhav

between faith and nature – In society reduces religion to mere India, religion and nature have superficial expressions, when never been two separate entities. humanity distances itself from Here, the Ganga is not just a nature, reaching God becomes river, but a mother; the Peepal is not just a tree, but a sacred tree; the Himalayas are not just mountains, but the abode of gods. Therefore, our traditions have always been linked to the philosophy of nature conservation and collective living. However, in Himachal Pradesh has been a today's times, this connection is weakening. Modernity, urbanization, and the climate crisis have directly impacted our religious traditions. When we consider the story of Bhavishya Badri and the recent disruption of the Mani of "breaking the Dal." This ritual Mahesh Yatra, it becomes clear is not merely a religious rite but that traditions are deeply connected not only to faith but also to the environment and society. The story of Bhavishya Badri – a warning: There is a mythological was broken for the first time. belief that at the end of Kaliyuga, when dharma will decline and adharma will prevail, the doors of ples were unable to reach the lake Badrinath Dham will be closed, and had to conclude their journey

reflects not just geography, but age-old connection society. It suggests that when difficult. Its message is profound: to keep faith alive, we must also maintain balance in life and responsibility toward nature.

Manimahesh Yatra – A broken tradition:

The Mani Mahesh Yatra in symbol of faith for centuries. Every year, on the eighth day of the month of Bhadrapada, thousands of people traverse the arduous climb to reach the lake. The journey concludes with the ritual also a symbol of community unity and cultural continuity passed down through generations. However, in 2025, this tradition Heavy rains and landslides blocked the path. Shiva's disci-

Bhavishya Badri. This story incident was not only a disappointment but a shocking warning: is nature now signaling that we have lost our balance?

Today's Biggest Challenge— Climate Crisis: The Himalayan region is facing the most severe impact of climate change. Scientific data shows that abnormal rainfall and landslides have doubled in Himachal and Uttarakhand over the past 20 years. Glaciers are melting rapidly, river flows are changing, and villages and cities are increasingly threatened. How can religious pilgrimages remain untouched by this crisis? When roads collapse and floods occur, traditions are disrupted. This is not just a physical obstacle, but the result of our

Uncontrolled tourism - a burden on faith: Not only Mani Mahesh, but also sites like Amarnath, Kedarnath, and Badrinath attract millions of pilgrims every year. These massive crowds, vehicle exhaust, plastic waste, and the proliferation of hotels and restaurants are damaging the fragile ecosystems of and Lord Vishnu will be wor- by offering prayers at Chamba these areas. Religious sites that could transhipped only at a place called Chaugan. For the devotees, this once symbolized meditation and millions.

This paradox forces us to wonder whether we are weakening our

The Changing Nature of Traditions - Today, religion is often reduced to mere rituals. While the emphasis is on the outward appearance of worship, the deeper message behind it—respect for nature, self-control, and collective responsibility—is often lost. This is why the incidents at Bhavishya Badri and Mani Mahesh shock us. They remind us that if traditions lose touch with their core message, their very existence will be threatened.

What is the way out? Sustainable tourism policy: The government should regulate the number of pilgrims on pilgrimages, strictly prohibit plastic and pollution, and prioritize sustainable infrastructure development.

Role of Religious Leadership -Saints, Mahatmas, and temple committees should spread the message that "protecting nature is worship." Such a message could transform the thinking of Education

peace are now overwhelmed by Awareness - Schools and colleges noise and commercial pressure. should portray religious pilgrimages not only as a matter of faith but also as a practice of environprotection. Community Involvement Villages and local people should be the first to engage in protecting these sites. Only when society takes responsibility will real change occur.

> Conclusion: The story of Bhavishya Badri and the obstacles to the Manimahesh Yatra tell us that traditions will only survive if they are in harmony with nature. If the environment is unbalanced, faith will also fail. The question isn't whether reaching God is difficult. The real question is whether we are able to protect the truth within us and the nature around us. Don't reduce religion to mere rituals. Make it a way of life, where faith, society, and nature are balanced. Today, we need to look at our traditions from a new perspective, connecting them with environmental and social responsibility. Only then will they be passed on to future generations as a vibrant and powerand ful heritage.

Owner-Suday Kumar, Printer Publisher- Suday Kumar, Printer At- SH Printers Pvt. Ltd. (Formerly Shivasai Publication Pvt. Ltd) Ratu Kathitar, Near Tender Bagicha HP Petrol Pump Post Ps. Ratu, Ranchi Jharkhand, Published At: - Bishnupur Road, Near- Durga Mandir Po&Ps. Jhumaritelaiya (Kodarma) Jharkhand 825409, Email- dbnewsranchi@gmail.com. Editor- Suday Kumar, RNI-JHENG/25/A1088, Mob. 9470506288

#### **OPPO India brings Grand Festive** Sale across its portfolio; 10 Lakh Mega Prize for 10 lucky customers

Ranchi: Ushering in the festive cheer, OPPO India has announced the return of its biggest festive sale for customers in India: 'Pay o, Worry o, Win 10 Lakh'. From 19th September to 31st October, customers can explore and avail exciting offers on OPPO devices, including the latest launches - the F31 Series and the Reno14 Series, across retail stores, the OPPO e-store, Flipkart, and Amazon. The OPPO festive sale offers shoppers a host of exclusive benefits, including zero down payment, interest-free EMIs, instant cashbacks, attractive exchange schemes and a chance to win latest OPPO devices along with cash prizes of 10 Lakh or 1 Lakh. Commenting on the occasion, Goldee Patnaik, Head - PR and Communications, OPPO India, said, "With the onset of the festive season, we at OPPO are geared up to make it truly special and celebratory for our valued customers in India. Our users are at the heart of everything we do, and the Grand Festive Bonanza is a heartfelt gesture to thank them for their continued trust in the brand. Festive shopping is all about added value, and we have tailored our offers accordingly, with attractive deals, discounts, and exciting rewards. Our devices offer unmatched durability, advanced AI camera capabilities, and high-performance specifications across a range of price points to suit diverse consumer needs. The My OPPO Diwali Raffle is designed to bring even more joy through high-value rewards. We hope our efforts enable customers capture, share, and celebrate every festive moment with happi-

### Aamar Pujo, Aamar Starbucks: Starbucks Introduces Pujoinspired festive menu

Customers to get 50% off on second food item during celebrations

Ranchi: Starbucks India has rolled out its first-ever Pujo-inspired menu under the campaign "Aamar Pujo, Aamar Starbucks", blending Bengal's festive flavours with the brand's coffee expertise. The limited-edition menu will be available from 20th September across select outlets in Kolkata, Guwahati, Gangtok, Bhubaneswar, Jamshedpur, Patna and Ranchi, as well as on

The festive spread reimagines familiar dishes with a modern twist. The menu includes Chingri Turnover, Bhetki Bhaja Sandwich, Aloo Poshto Burger, Kasundi Chicken Burger and Dhakai Chicken Wrap. Sweet indulgences such as Mihidhana Brulee and Kalakand Pie bring traditional Bengali mithai into the coffeehouse experience.

To complement the food, Starbucks has introduced Chocolate Foam Cold Brew and Jaggery Cloud Latte, beverages crafted with regional influences.

Adding to the cheer, customers can avail 50% off on the second food item, making it easier to share festive treats with friends and family.

Mitali Maheshwari, Head of Product and Marketing, Tata Starbucks, said the initiative aims to make Starbucks stores a welcoming "third place" where people gather, connect and celebrate Pujo moments.

#### Tata Tea Gold Unveils Banglar Shilpi Shojjito Pujo: A Festive Tribute to West Bengal's Art and Culture this Durga Pujo

Ranchi: Tata Tea Gold, West Bengal's leading tea brand, has announced its Durga Pujo campaign 'Banglar Shilpi Shojjito Pujo', honouring the state's rich artistic traditions. The brand has introduced limited edition festive packs designed in collaboration with renowned Bengali artists, blending culture and creativity with the spirit of Pujo.

The packs feature artworks by Goutam Sarkar (Acrylic), Gopal Naskar (Dry Pastels), Gourab Kundu (Watercolors), Bhattacharya (Oil Paintings) and Joyeeta Bose (Digital Art). Each artist has depicted moments from the festival — the beat of the dhak on Shashti, the sound of the shankho on Saptami, Ashtami's devotion, Nabami's dhunuchi dance and the joy of sindoor khela on Dashami.

The collection was unveiled on September 16 at Taj Bengal, Kolkata, during a special media and influencer event. The evening included live art demonstrations and was attended by Mr. Puneet Das, President -Packaged Beverages, India & South Asia, Tata Consumer Products. He said, "Durga Pujo is more than a festival; it is an emotion that unites Bengal. These packs are a heartfelt tribute to its art, tradition and culture."

## Kurkure celebrates 25 years, forays into milletbased snacking with the launch of Jowar Puff

New Delhi, Agency: PepsiCo India's famous Indian snack brand Kurkure is celebrating its 25th anniversary. On this special occasion, PepsiCo has entered millet based snack category. This new snack is not fried, but baked. The company launched 'Kurkure Puffs' Jowar Monday.

In a statement issued by PepsiCo, it that said with Jowar 'Kurkure Puffs', PepsiCo has based snack category quick and ?20 packs across lets, providing an ern format.



North, West, and East opportunity

joined the list of other India through mod- PepsiCo India to rein- Marketing daily consumer goods ern and traditional troduce this cereal to (Kurkure & Doritos), companies that have retail, leading e-com- today's generation. said in a statement entered the millet merce platforms, and Kurkure Jowar Puffs that with "Kurkure commerce will offer people a fun Jowar Puffs," we are country. apps. This change is and flavorful way to offering an accessible Kurkure Jowar Puffs in line with the grow- enjoy their favorite and unique take on will be available in ?10 ing demand for mil- ingredients in a mod- this historically sig-

Aastha Bhasin,

### H-1B visa fee hike will reduce India's brain drain: Mkt & Banking expert Ajay Bagga

New Delhi, Agency: The United States' decision to impose a steep increase in H-1B visa fees has triggered concerns across Indian industries.

But banking and market expert Ajay Bagga has a different view. Speaking with

Agency, Bagga said that the USD 1,00,000 fee for the H1B visa will check the brain drain from India. "Brain drain will reduce, and India will have to find other avenues or productively use these people. This will be an objective for the govt too," he said."There are approximately 16,000 Indian-origin doctors working in rural areas in the US. Wide regions in the US are benefiting from H-1B visas,' Bagga noted.

## New GST rates come into effect know what all has become cheaper

New Delhi, and Services Tax (GST) rates came effect on Monday, the first day of Navratri. The festive season is expected to bring a lot of excitement to markets. Companies have reduced prices on many products to benefit customers, affixing MRP stickers with the new and air old rates. reduced GST rates



conditioners separate 40% tax has The cheaper. The GST, been imposed on which comes into luxury and luxury decision on this was have made purchas- effect today, now has goods. Under the taken in the 56th ing everything from two main rates: 5% new changes, tobac- meeting of the GST ghee, cheese, cars, to and 18%. However, a co and related prod- Council.

ucts will remain subject to a 28% plus cess. The government has directed that businesses and industries pass on the full benefits of the new GST rates to consumers. The government announced a reduction in GST rates on September 3, which has come into effect across the country from today. The

#### Croma Debuts in Ranchi with Flat 35% Off to Celebrate Store Launch Ranchi: Tata Group's exciting new market for us,

electronics retail chain Croma and opening our very first has entered Ranchi with the storehere is a significant milelaunch of its first store in the stone in our expansion jourcity. Spread over 6,598 sq. ft., ney. With a growing conthe store is located at Adonis sumer base of young profes-Cloud9on Kanke Road, opposionals and families, the city is site Jawahar Nagar, and well-positioned to benefit marksthebrand's second outletinJharkhand.

products and personalised shopping experiences.

spokesperson for Infiniti outlet or Retail Ltd said, "Ranchi is an www.croma.com.

from Croma's exclusive product range and expert servic-Positioned close to es."To mark the occasion, Nucleus Mall, Ranchi's largest Croma is offering a flat 35% shopping destination, the discount on select electronics new store is expected to pro- until October 21, subject to vide customers with easy stock availability. The store access to the latest technology will remain open daily from 11 am to 9 pm. For details on products and launch offers, Announcing the launch, a customers can visit the new

#### The reduction in GST rates will boost the hospitality, transport and cultural sectors in the country

New Delhi, Agency: The government said that the new Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates (revised) effective from Monday will make the country's tourism sector more affordable, increase the use of public transport, and support artisans and cultural industries. These GST reductions will strengthen domestic tourism, promote cultural heritage, and encourage investment in related sec-

GST rate reduced on hotels, buses, and art and cultural items

The GST Council, in its 56th meeting earlier this month, reduced the GST rate on hotels (less than Rs 7,500 per day) from 12% to 5% (without ITC). Now, the GST on buses with a seating capacity of more than 10 people has been reduced from 28% to 18%. Similarly, the GST on art and cultural items has also been reduced from 12% to



This GST reduction will make hotel stays more affordable for the middle class and budget travelers. This measure will align India's hospitality structure with internationtourist destinations, making it more attractive for foreign tourists to visit India. It is also expected to boost weekend getaways, pilgrimage circuits, and heritage and eco-tourism. This move will encourage investment in new midsized hotels, homestays, and guesthouses, create employment, and improve infrastructure.

## Flipkart Makes Two-Wheeler Buying Easy Affordable Ahead of Big Billion Days 2025

Ranchi: Flipkart Ather, OLA, petrol and electric mium convenience, affordability, transparency.

to premium motorcy- can now maximise loans up to 48

and options. is set to revolutionise Ampere. The Big two-wheeler shop- Billion Days 2025 will ney is fully digital, ping in India as the Big also witness the covering discovery, Billion Days 2025 launch of Royal approaches. Offering Enfield Motorcycles an extensive range of to offer a diverse premotorcycle offered bikes and scooters, selection along with

The purchase jourbooking, registration,

insurance, and deliv-Insurance is ery. through providers like Acko, the platform aims to Jawa Yezdi, KTM, and ICICI Lombard, and customers Triumph. With the United India, includ-GST reduction on ing zero-depreciation and bikes under 350cc and personal accident from 28% to 18% from cover. Flexible financ-From commuters September 22, buyers ing options include expert

back offers from Flipkart Axis Bank and SBI Cards.

Sujith Vice President Electronics, Flipkart, said, "We aim to make two-wheeler ownership seamless, transparent, and accessible for all. Our fully backed by trusted brands and 24x7 ensures cles, Flipkart features value while taking months, 24-month can make confident brands like Hero, advantage of festive no-cost EMIs, and buying decisions from TVS, Bajaj, Suzuki, deals and financing bank-specific cash- the comfort of home."

#### Philips Home Appliances Brings Festive Cheer with 'Sone Pe Suhaga' Campaign; Customers Stand a Chance to Win Gold Every Hour!

in India is synonymous with Suhaga, bringing consumers lasting memories while making joy, new beginnings, and auspi-the chance to celebrate the sea-everyday life easier. With a cious traditions, and few sym- son with golden rewards alongbols capture that better than side trusted innovations for the ic Philips Airfryer, Mixer gold. Embracing this festive home. Philips Home Appliances has announced its lies Philips' belief that the fes- Purifiers, and more.

At the heart of the campaign Garment

Ranchi: The festive season pan-India campaign Sone Pe tive season is about creating portfolio that includes the icon-Grinders, Coffee Machines, Steamers,

## Why AI Skills Matter: Futurense Honored at World Education Summit 2025

New Delhi, Agency: Futurense Technologies has been crowned Best AI Skilling Company at the Elets World Education Summit 2025, marking a big milestone in its journey to prepare people for the future of work. The company not only teaches people how to build AI technologies but also shows them how to use AI and work. This balance

how and real-world application is what sets the company apart in today's fast-changing world. To make world-class learning accessible. more Futurense has joined hands with leading IITs, bringing top-quality AI skilling programs to learners across the country. These programs combine effectively in everyday life cutting-edge knowledge industry-focused with

between technical know-



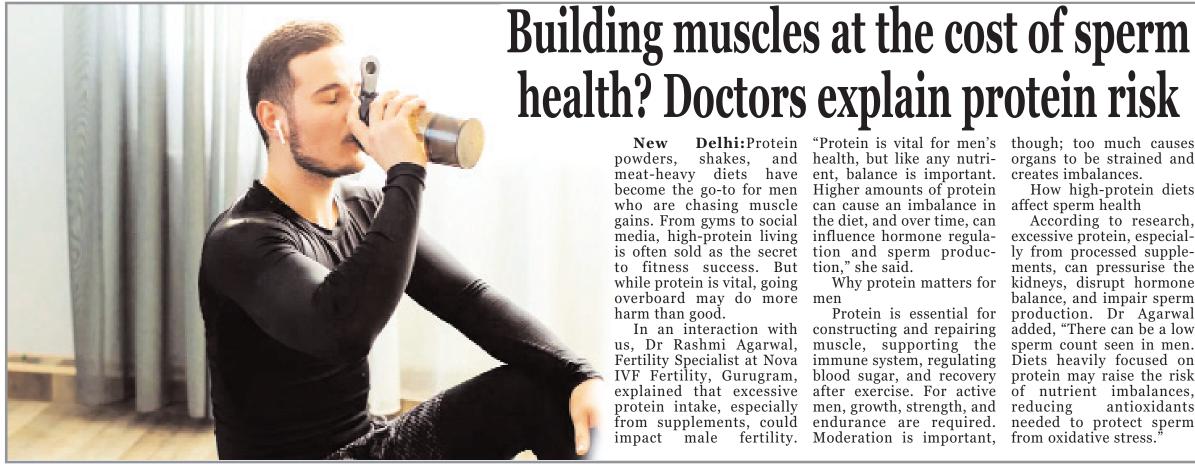
training, ensuring students and professionals are ready for the challenges of tomorrow.

For Futurense, this recognition is especially meaningful. Since its beginning, the company has proudly called itself an AI Skilling Company. But for them, it is more than just a name. It is their identity and mission. Futurense works on two

• Building talent that builds AI by training people with the skills to design and develop AI systems.

Enabling talent that leverages AI by helping professionals in different industries use AI tools to be more effective.

This dual mission has guided Futurense's journey and helped it emerge as a trusted name in future-ready learning and workforce solutions.



meat-heavy diets have ent, balance is important. become the go-to for men Higher amounts of protein who are chasing muscle can cause an imbalance in gains. From gyms to social the diet, and over time, can media, high-protein living influence hormone regulais often sold as the secret tion and sperm producto fitness success. But tion," she said. while protein is vital, going overboard may do more men harm than good.

us, Dr Rashmi Agarwal, Fertility Specialist at Nova IVF Fertility, Gurugram, explained that excessive protein intake, especially from supplements, could impact male fertility. Moderation is important,

shakes, and health, but like any nutri-

Why protein matters for

Protein is essential for In an interaction with constructing and repairing muscle, supporting the immune system, regulating blood sugar, and recovery after exercise. For active men, growth, strength, and endurance are required.

Delhi: Protein "Protein is vital for men's though; too much causes organs to be strained and creates imbalances.

> How high-protein diets affect sperm health

> According to research, excessive protein, especially from processed supplements, can pressurise the kidneys, disrupt hormone balance, and impair sperm production. Dr Agarwal added, "There can be a low sperm count seen in men. Diets heavily focused on protein may raise the risk of nutrient imbalances, reducing antioxidants needed to protect sperm from oxidative stress.

## Can routine blood tests indicate risk of blood cancer? Doctor explains

New Delhi:Blood cancer can affect anyone, and its symptoms are often vague in the early stages, leading to tiredness, fever, or frequent infections. Many people tend to ignore these signs, mistaking them for everyday health issues, and suffer in silence. Hence, routine blood tests are important for everyone to understand their health status and prevent blood can-

Satara, while these tests cannot confirm blood cancer on their own, they may indicate that something may be wrong, encouraging further investigation. Early detection means better treatment and higher chances of recovery.

Take these tests:

A Complete Blood Count (CBC) is commonly advised for patients, which helps to measure red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. So, very high or very low levels may suggest blood cancer. Erythrocyte marrow transplant, chemotherapy, target-Sedimentation Rate (ESR) helps to under- ed therapy, immunotherapy, and radiation

doctors to check further.

A peripheral smear is also recommended for the patient. During this test, a drop of blood is examined under a microscope. It can reveal abnormal or immature blood cells, which may raise suspicion of leukaemia or other blood cancers.

A bone marrow biopsy can also be advised for the patient. So, these tests are affordable and easily available. While they As per Dr Vinod Patil, Haematologist, cannot directly diagnose blood cancer, Consultant - Oncolife Cancer Centre, they act like an early warning system that helps doctors to take immediate steps, initiate treatment, and improve the survival rate of the patient.

Treatments for blood cancer

Treatment for blood cancer is not onesize-fits-all. Various factors, such as the type and subtype of cancer, genetic mutations, age, overall health, and the aggressiveness of the disease, are understood by the expert before deciding the line of treatment. So, the treatment includes bone stand the level of inflammation in the therapy. The patient will have to follow the body. A very high ESR can be a signal for treatment guidelines given by the doctor.

## Stroke warning signs: Doctor explains why slurred speech need urgent care

New Delhi:When it comes to health, we all tend to brush off minor issues, hoping they'll resolve on their own. But sometimes, what looks like a small problem is actually a big warning sign. One-sided weakness or sudden slurred speech is one such red flag you cannot afford to ignore.

We spoke to Dr Faisal Bari, Head of Emergency, Hospital, Ghaziabad, who stressed that these early signs could be the first indicators of a stroke, a condition that is rapidly becoming one of India's leading causes of death and disability.

Recognising stroke symp-

A stroke can present in many different ways depending on the part of the brain affected. Some of the most common signs to look out for include:

Slurred or garbled speech Inability to communicate or understand speech

Weakness or paralysis on one side of the body or face Double or blurry vision Abrupt dizziness or verti-

Severe, sudden headaches Confusion or agitation

Doctors recommend using the acronym BE FAST to identify stroke symptoms

B – Balance: sudden loss of balance

E – Eyes: sudden change or loss of vision

F - Face: drooping of facial muscles



A – Arms: weakness or numbness in the arms

S – Speech: slurred or dif- stroke ficult speech

T – Time: act fast and seek emergency help immediately Why quick action matters

"Delay receiving treat—Physic ment will only mean regain irreparable harm to the strength. brain," Dr Bari explains. "The tified and treatment started, the more we can limit further damage and improve clinical outcomes.'

Immediate action can involve procedures such as mechanical thrombectomy, a life-saving technique that removes blood clots and restores blood flow to the brain. Advanced imaging, like CT and MRI scans in hyperacute stroke units, allows doctors to determine of signalling an urgent medthe exact cause and begin ical crisis.



treatment without delay. Road to recovery after a

Treatment doesn't end once the clot is removed or blood flow is restored. Rehabilitation is key:

Physical therapy helps movement

Speech therapy enables sooner stroke signs are iden- communication skills to

return. Occupational therapy allows patients to perform

daily activities independent-Emotional healing and

strong family support also play a major role in recovery.

Slurred speech or sudden weakness on one side of the body is never "just stress" or something that will pass. They're often the body's way

# Is one of your child's shoulders higher? Doctor explains when to worry

you may notice small changes in your child's posture, like one shoulder looking higher than the other. While it's easy to assume it's just slouching or a posture issue, doctors caution that it could be something more serious: scoliosis. However, it is important to understand what exactly it means.

We reached out to Dr Rajesh Kumar Verma, Consultant - Orthopaedics, Manipal Hospital, Ghaziabad, who explained why recognising scoliosis early is so important, especially during your child's growing years.

What is scoliosis?

Scoliosis is a lateral curvature of the spine. The most tre prevalent spinal deformity in

New Delhi: As a parent, children aged 10–12 years is idiopathic scoliosis, ie, of unknown cause, as per the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), with an estimated prevalence of around 3% among school-age children.

Dr Verma describes how scoliosis usually goes undetected as it is often painless, but left untreated, may develop into chronic back pain, changes in posture, as well as breathing issues for very advanced cases.

Signs to look out for Parents should be alert to early warning signs. Some of

these include:

Shoulder blades that stick Head not aligned in the cen-

Uneven shoulders

Uneven or elevated hips



Uneven leg length

Dr Verma adds, "Children may not complain of pain, but visible asymmetry like uneven shoulders is often the first clue for parents.'

What parents should know about scoliosis?

Early diagnosis matters: Detecting scoliosis before a growth spurt allows treatment to be more effective.

Most cases are idiopathic: Lifestyle or backpacks do not cause scoliosis.

It can be painless: Regular check-ups are key since children may hide or not notice

changes. Family history matters, but is not everything: Family history may accompany scoliosis, but the condition often occurs without history.

Treatment exists: 10% of patients need surgery, whereas 30% could possibly need bracing. A majority of cases can be successfully treated with prompt treatment.

Scoliosis treatments

Treatment varies with the level of the curve:

Mild: Could only need monitoring to ensure the curve doesn't progress.

Moderate: Usually treated with braces to aid in the normal

growth of the spine. Severe: Can be suggested to correct the curvature by sur-

Dr Verma emphasises, "With early intervention, kids with scoliosis can attend school, participate in sports, and have normal lives without

having to give up activities."

## Markram looking forward to "new challenges" at Durban's Super Giants **Johannesburg, Agency:** of it, obviously sad to leave Gerald Coetzee, along with the Aiden Markram is looking forward Sunrisers, "Markram told SA20, as mystery spin of West Indian legend

to "new challenges" when he joins up with Durban's Super Giants for the SA20 Season 4, as per a release from SA20.

The Proteas T20I captain enjoyed three highly successful seasons with the Sunrisers Eastern Cape, leading the St George's Parkbased team to two successive championship titles and runnersup finish last season.

But although the Sunrisers valiantly tried to keep Markram in their stable by utilising their Right to Match (RTM) card at the auction when the bid reached USD 720K, the Super Giants hit back with an improved USD 806.5K to secure the 30-year-old for the new season.

At the time it was a new auction record, surpassing Markram's former SEC teammate Tristan Stubbs' previous mark of USD 530K although it lasted only for a short while before Pretoria Capitals snapped up Dewald Brevis for a cool USD 950.6K.

"It's exciting. Something new is always exciting. On the other side quoted from a release by SA20.

"Had a really good three years with them, great people, great coach with Adie Birrell. So that part of it is obviously sad, but I spent some time with Lucknow Super Giants at the IPL and obviously now with Durban or going to Durban is going to be exciting," he added.

"New challenges, different conditions, new teammates, some different teammates. It's always exciting to be able to sort of see those new things and face different challenges," he noted.

The Super Giants are looking to recover from a disappointing Season 3 where they won just two matches from 10 starts, which saw the Kingsmead side rooted to the basement of the SA20 log.

Markram believes with the highquality squad that DSG have assembled, which includes former England's T20 World Cup-winning captain Jos Buttler, swashbuckler Heinrich Klaasen, exciting fast bowlers Kwena Maphaka and Sunil Narine and Afghanistan star Noor Ahmad, that the tide is set to turn on the east coast.

"I checked the squad now. There's some world beaters there. When you realize those guys are on your team, naturally you get quite excited about it," he said.

"None more so than Klaasie (Klaasen) ... he's been lighting the world on fire the last 18 months or whatever it's been, two years, maybe even longer. Really good signings at the auction as well. Good players, some nice young, exciting players with your proper X-Factor guys as well. I'm excited to mingle with everyone, excited to create a good, happy, fun environment. That's what the SA20 is about for me and I'm sure every-one's going to love their time there in Durban," he noted.

DSG face an immediate test of their quality in Season 4 when they go head-to-head with defending champions MI Cape Town in the competition opener at Newlands on December 26.



global sporting icon will trade his release from PUMA. running spikes for football boots in a one-of-a-kind spectacle in Bollywood personalities, and other Mumbai on October 1. Taking centre stage, the fastest man on earth

**New Delhi, Agency:** Usain Bolt, the eight-time Olympic gold medalist, world record holder, and will light up the pitch in an exclusive football showcase alongside top teams and players, as per a

Featuring footballers, prominent figures, the match promises to be a spectacle like no

other. Adding to the excitement, PUMA. Bolt will represent both Bengaluru FC and Mumbai City FC, playing one half each, bringing fans from both camps together in a grand celebration of sport, entertainment,

and community, with PUMA uniting its two partner football clubs on the same stage.

Karthik Balagopalan, managing director, PUMA India, said "At PUMA, we believe sport has the power to inspire and unite communities. Football is one of the most popular sports among the youth of India, and bringing Usain Bolt -- our global ambassador and one of the greatest icons in world sport -to play here is our way of celebrating that momentum. Bolt is excited and looking forward to taking the pitch in Mumbai, and this unique ticketed event, with tickets going showcase with Bengaluru FC and live soon. Fans can look forward to Mumbai City FC is designed to fuel a never-seen-before spectacle, as the passion of young fans while top celebrities and sporting icons reinforcing our long-term commit- join Bolt on the pitch to make it an ment to the growth of football in unforgettable evening of football India," as quoted from a release by and entertainment.

Beyond the track, Usain Bolt has always carried a deep passion for football. Growing up, he often played the sport and dreamt of showcasing his speed and skills on the pitch. After retiring from athletics, he actively pursued this love--training, playing trial matches, and even scoring goals along the way. Though his professional football career never materialized, Bolt's love for the game has continued to shine in charity matches, exhibitions, and special appearances. His outing in Mumbai will be a celebration of India's rich football legacy and a tribute to the strong connection the country's youth share with the sport.

This exhibition match will be a



### **Fenesta Open National Tennis** Championship kicks off on September 29 at DLTA



**New Delhi, Agency:** The 30th Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship begins on September 29 at the DLTA Complex, New Delhi, as per a release from Open National Championship.

The Fenesta Open is India's largest domestic tennis championship, drawing top contenders from across the country.

As the only comprehensive national championship covering Men, Women, and U-18/U-16/U-14 (Boys & Girls) categories, the tournament has seen participation from leading Indian stars over the years, including Rohan Bopanna, Somdev Devvarman, Yuki Bhambri, Sania Mirza, and Rutuja

Speaking on the 30-year milestone, Ajay S Shriram, chairman & senior managing director and Vikram Shriram, vice chairman & managing director, DCM Shriram Ltd., said: "We are proud to celebrate the 30th edition of the Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship, an enduring platform for Indian tennis.

## "They spit in face of BCCI," controversial gesture from Pakistan cricketer's Rauf Farhan invites criticism from opposition

New Delhi, Agency: The high-voltage India vs Pakistan Super Fours clash in the Asia Cup has taken an ugly turn, with political outrage erupting in India over the controversial gestures made by some Pakistani cricketers during the game in Dubai.

During Pakistan's innings, opener Sahibzada Farhan, after completing his half-century, celebrated by holding his bat like a gun, a move that has been widely criticised as being insensitive and provocative.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut lashed out at the ICC chairman Jay Shah, accusing him of enabling the match and mocking him with a sharp statement on X.

"Sahibzada Farhan just proved on the field how Pakistani terrorists slaughtered 26 innocents in Pahalgam--gunning them down like it was nothing. Reached his fifty and gripped the bat like an AK-47, firing boundaries! This spit in the face of BCCI & Modi govt is peak humiliation. For enabling İndia's shame, Jay Shah deserves the Bharat Ratna," Raut said.

Later, in another tweet, he continued to mock ICC Chief



Jay Shah, "Who is responsible for this? Jai Bhai! Jai Bhai! Jai Bhai should be awarded the Bharat Ratna. For stopping the India-Pakistan war, President Trump should get the Nobel Prize and for the insult to India's martyrs, patriots should strongly demand Bharat Ratna for Jai Bhai!"

Another controversy escalated when Pakistan seamer Haris Rauf was also seen making gestures during India's chase. AAP leader Saurabh Bharadwaj strongly condemned the act, calling it an

insult to the nation.

"In the India-Pakistan match, the Pakistani player is making a mockery of India in front of the whole world. He is making gestures of shooting down the Indian jet. Why were Pakistanis given such a worldclass platform? Why didn't we walk out right then? Shame on BJP's central government. By playing 2-2 matches with Pakistan, they have told the entire world that everything is getting better with Pakistan. And their such antics?" Bharadwaj said.

## Pranavi, Hitaashee are tied for 47th place in La Sella Open on LET

**Alicante, Agency:** Pranavi Urs and Hitaashee Bakshi were tied for 47th place with one more round to go in the 2025 La Sella Open. Pranavi carded an even par 72, while

Hitaashee shot 1-over 73.
Pranavi had two birdies and two bogeys all on the back nine of the course and between the 13th and the 18th.

Hitaashee had four birdies, but she also gave away three bogeys and a double bogey on Par-5 ninth.

The other Indians, Diksha Dagar, Tvesa Malik, Avani Prashanth, Ridhima Dilawari and Vani Kapoor had missed the halfway cut.Canada's Anna Huang continued her fine form at the 2025 La Sella Open, producing a round of 69 (-3) on day three to hold a threestroke lead heading into the final day. The 16year-old has held the lead since the start of the tournament and began well with a birdie on the second at La Sella Golf Resort. Huang sits at the top of the leaderboard with a score of 17under-par. Huang, who is in her rookie season on the Ladies European Tour (LET), made another birdie on the ninth before back-toback birdies on 11 and 12.After back-to-back bogey-free rounds, the teenager dropped her first shot of the week on her 15 - she had not made a bogey in her previous 62 holes in competition on the LET.