

CM to inaugurate ‘MP Tech Growth Conclave 2025’ today

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

In a major step towards establishing Madhya Pradesh as a hub of technology and digital innovation, Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav will inaugurate the 'MP Tech Growth Conclave 2025' on April 27, 2025, at the Brilliant Convention Centre, Indore. The Chief Minister has expressed confidence that the conclave will emerge as a golden investment opportunity for technology leaders from India and around the world. On this occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Yadav will release the guidelines for four new technology policies of the state - the GCC Policy, Drone Policy, Semiconductor Policy, and AVGC-XR Policy. These for-

Chief Minister has expressed confidence that the conclave will emerge as a golden investment opportunity for technology leaders from India and around the world

ward-looking policies aim to boost innovation, research, and manufacturing, unlocking regional technological potential. Organised by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Madhya Pradesh, this conclave is a key initiative to translate the investment commitments made during the Global Investors Summit (GIS) Bhopal into actionable outcomes. The 'MP Tech Growth Conclave' will be the state's first fully sector-based technology conclave, serving as a platform to bring the

recent GIS-Bhopal investment proposals into reality. Over 300 leading industry experts, entrepreneurs, policy makers, and investors - including representatives from global tech giants such as Google, Microsoft, and NVIDIA - are expected to attend. During the conclave, the Chief Minister will also perform Bhoomi-Poojan (foundation-laying ceremonies) for new IT Parks, Skill Development Centers, and Startup Incubators. He will inaugurate Centers of Excellence and Incubation Hubs, signing of the key

MoUs, presenting the land allocation letters, and launch a dedicated 'Investment Facilitation Portal' that will provide real-time project tracking and a single-window interface for investors. The conclave will also feature sector-specific roundtable meetings, virtual consultations with members of the IT Advisory Board, and one-on-one meetings between the Chief Minister and top CXOs (Tech Industry Leaders) to fast-track investment approvals and resolve project-level challenges. 'MP Tech Growth Conclave 2025' will mark a decisive step in transforming Madhya Pradesh into a leader in future digital India and in realising the investment pledges made during GIS 2025.

Illegal mining to be monitored through AI

Bhopal: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has directed the development of a mining surveillance system utilising Artificial Intelligence (AI) to curb illegal mining, storage, and transportation activities. Under this initiative, Geo-Tagging of all 7,502 approved mines across the state has been completed, clearly demarcating mining areas. Satellite imagery and remote sensing technologies will be deployed to monitor illegal excavation and storage activities. Yadav stated that this system will be capable of detecting unauthorised mining activities outside the designated mining zones. The system will analyse satellite images and alert state and district-level administrations at regular intervals. Field teams will inspect and verify such alerts via a mobile application and register reports directly onto the portal or app.



Traders down shutters in response to a bandh call given by the Bhopal Chamber of Commerce and Industries to protest the Pahalgalam terror attack, at New Market in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

NSUI demands strict action in Madhya Pradesh Nursing Scam

Bhopal: Renewing its attack on the Madhya Pradesh government over the high-profile nursing scam, the National Students' Union of India (NSUI) has demanded immediate and stringent action against all those involved. NSUI State Vice President Ravi Parmar submitted a detailed memorandum to the Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh, urging a high-level independent inquiry, immediate suspension of the accused officials, and initiation of criminal proceedings. In his memorandum, Parmar pointed out that despite the scam being exposed more than a year ago, comprehensive action against all guilty individuals remains pending. He noted that in 2024, the then Commissioner of Medical Education had issued show-cause notices to over 110 doctors and nursing staff. However, under the current com-

missioner, Tarun Rathi, charge sheets have been issued to only 70 individuals, raising concerns that several accused are being deliberately shielded. Parmar further alleged that while the government removed Radhika Nair, the then Principal of the Nursing School at Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal, no firm action has been taken against other officials and staff who were also issued notices. These include former principal Rosy Shahul, Dr. Jitendra Mahawar, Dr. Hari Singh Makwana, Dr. Sandeep Marskole, Dr. Virendra Dhurve, and nursing staffers Rajni Nair, Priyadarshini Dehriya, Deepika Kumbhare, and Rajshri Malviya. Similarly, at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Medical College, Jabalpur, despite charge sheets being issued to nursing college officials Stella Peter, Easter Sheeba Andrews, and Aarti Tiwari, they continue

to remain in their posts, which, Parmar stated, casts serious doubts over the impartiality of the investigation. The memorandum also mentioned that Pratibha Singh Thakur had previously granted illegal recognition to several fake nursing colleges. Despite NSUI lodging a written complaint with the Medical Education Commissioner on April 4, 2025, no concrete action has been initiated against her so far. NSUI has made it clear that if strict action is not taken promptly against all those responsible, the organization will be compelled to launch a statewide agitation to protect the interests of students and uphold democratic values. Speaking to reporters, Ravi Parmar said that the government's continued inaction in such a sensitive matter is deeply tarnishing the credibility of medical education in Madhya Pradesh.

Rameshwar for speedy completion of work

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

Huzur MLA Rameshwar Sharma inspected roads in the Kolar area of the state capital on Saturday. He announced a new cement concrete stretch from Mandakini Square to Danish Kunj. Sharma was accompanied by officials from the SDM Kolar office, Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC), PWD, Police and Electricity Department. The inspection began at Sarvadhama Bridge and included JK Hospital Road. The MLA said the road from Mandakini Square to Agrasen Square (Danish Kunj) would be rebuilt with cement concrete and widened. Electricity poles obstructing the way will be relocated for smoother flow of traffic. The new road, costing approximately Rs 10 crore, will be the first in Bhopal to use white-

topping technology, aimed at offering greater durability and smoother commuting experience. Sharma instructed officials to repair damaged roads before the monsoon and clean drains thoroughly. He stressed identifying waterlogging-prone areas and ensuring swift arrangements for effective drainage. Officials were also directed to start work on the road from Agrasen Square to Girdhar Complex immediately and to expedite construction near Khatu Shyam Temple. Sharma said internal roads in colonies showing damage must be repaired ahead of the rains. Drain construction work, he added, must be completed without delay. He also visited PM Awas colonies and issued instructions for proper maintenance, urging officials to ensure all works are finished before the onset of the rainy season.

Light rainfall brings relief across Madhya Pradesh

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

A spell of light rainfall accompanied by strong winds 'brought much-needed relief to parts of Madhya Pradesh on Friday night. Cities including Bhopal, Harda, Dewas, Sehore, Raisen, and Narmadapuram experienced showers, with wind speeds touching 50 kmph in Bhopal, 47 kmph in Sehore, and 30 kmph in Harda-Pachmarhi. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast rainfall and thunderstorms across 34 districts in the coming days, signaling a temporary reprieve from the intense summer heat. On Friday, day temperatures peaked at 42°C, a notable dip from the scorching 44°C recorded earlier. Bhopal recorded a maximum temperature of 40.7°C, with the morn-

ing hours remaining cloudy and comparatively less warm before heating up later in the day. Despite the respite, heatwave conditions are expected to persist in isolated pockets of Mandsaur, Neemuch, Guna, Ashoknagar, Shivpuri, Chhindwara, Chhatarpur, Tikamgarh, Niwari, Ratlam, Khandwa, and Burhanpur, IMD officials said. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning are likely over Raisen, while thunderstorms with lightning and gusty winds between 40-50 kmph are forecast for Narmadapuram, Betul, Harda, Burhanpur, Khandwa, Khargone, Gwalior, Datia, Bhind, Morena, Sheopur, Singrauli, Sidhi, Rewa, Anuppur, Shahdol, Umaria, Dindori, Katni, Jabalpur, Narsinghpur, Seoni, Mandla, Balaghat, Damoh, and Pandhurna.

Due to an active trough system, light rain and thunderstorms are expected on Saturday across 19 districts, including Gwalior, Morena, Bhind, Datia, Sheopur, Ashoknagar, Vidisha, Sagar, Narmadapuram, Betul, Narsinghpur, Chhindwara, Pandhurna, Jabalpur, Seoni, Mandla, Balaghat, Dindori, and Anuppur. Additional rainfall activity is likely in Khandwa, Burhanpur, Pachmarhi, Damoh, Sagar, Katni, Panna, Maihar, Umaria, Sidhi, Shahdol, and Rewa. In particular, Narmadapuram, Betul, and Harda are expected to experience lightning with thunder in the afternoon hours, while Khandwa reported light drizzle early Saturday morning. Senior meteorologists predict that the state will continue to witness light rain and thunderstorms for the next four days, providing intermittent relief.



Traders take out a rally during a Bandh call to protest against the Pahalgalam terror attack called by Bhopal Chamber of Commerce and Industries, in Bhopal on Saturday.

Bhopal assault horror: Organized gang’s full brutality exposed

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

Three days after the shocking exposure of an organized gang accused of systematically targeting Hindu girls in Bhopal, police investigations have revealed even more horrifying details of the gang's brutal modus operandi. The case, initially centered around prime accused Farhan Khan and his associates Sahil Khan, Ali Khan, Shaji alias Shamsuddin, Abrar, and Nabeel, continues to unearth layers of deceit, torture, and exploitation. According to fresh findings, the gang operated with chilling precision, deliberately selecting young women from weaker economic backgrounds and exploiting their vulnerabilities. Sahil Khan, who ran a dance academy in Ashoka Garden, became the gang's key recruiter by admitting only Hindu girls and using his position as a trusted mentor to groom them. Police now confirm that vic-

The scale of the crimes appears far wider than initially suspected, with forensic analysis suggesting 10 to 15 additional victims

tims were first lured into a false sense of security through lavish outings to hookah lounges and pubs, before being trapped at secluded party locations. There, the girls were drugged, sexually assaulted, and their ordeals secretly recorded to be used as tools of blackmail. One particularly harrowing revelation involves a girl from Betul, who was drugged and raped by Sahil after her cold drink was spiked with narcotics. Investigators have recovered video evidence showing Farhan Khan engaging in simultaneous assaults on multiple victims, further aggravated by sadistic physical violence, including burning victims with cigarettes. Farhan reportedly stored

videos of these assaults in a dedicated folder on his mobile phone, treating them as grotesque "trophies." Further details highlight how each gang member had a specific role: Shaji alias Shamsuddin managed the transportation of victims to hideouts, Ali Khan filmed assaults and circulated footage, and Abrar and Nabeel aided in executing the blackmail and expanding the network. Payments for these logistics ranged between Rs 500 to Rs 700 per victim, police sources confirmed. The scale of the crimes appears far wider than initially suspected, with forensic analysis suggesting 10 to 15 additional victims. The Forensic Science

Laboratory (FSL) is currently examining Sahil's phone to retrieve deleted videos, while police teams have been dispatched to Kolkata and Bihar to trace fugitives Abrar and Nabeel. With more accomplices potentially linked to the gang, Bhopal Police have invoked organized crime charges in addition to existing provisions under the POCSO Act, rape laws, and the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act. The case is drawing comparisons to the 1992 Ajmer rape scandal, given its horrifying exploitation of trust and organized nature. Public anger continues to intensify, with citizens demanding swift justice and harsher laws to prevent such crimes. Authorities have reiterated their commitment to bringing every culprit to book and ensuring comprehensive justice for the courageous survivors who have come forward despite enormous trauma.

WIPS Annual Day celebration highlights women’s role in nation building

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

Forum of Women in Public Sector (WIPS), BHEL, Bhopal celebrated its Annual Day Programme today at Cultural Hall with great zeal and fervor. The Programme began with lighting of the lamp and worshiping of goddess Saraswati. SM Ramanathan, ED (OSD/ER&D), BHEL was present as the Chief Guest on the occasion. PK Upadhyay, GM & Head (HEP, Bhopal) graced the programme as Guest of Honour. Santosh Kumar Gupta, AGM & Head (HR) presided over the Programme. Sangeeta Ramanathan, Rosy Upadhyay, all GMs/DROs and members of WIPS were present in the programme besides large number of women employees. Dr. Alpana Tiwari, Unit Coordinator, WIPS, BHEL, Bhopal welcomed all the dignitaries and highlighted the achievements of WIPS, Bhopal whereas Namrata Jaiswal presented the Annual Report. Ramanathan in his address said that women think smartly and they are the source of change in society. He empha-

sized that women are at higher positions in BHEL as well as various organizations/institutions which can help in better nation building. He talked about self-discipline and gratitude to others. He also highlighted that BHEL has to play a very important role today in the industrial growth of the country and people have great expectations from the company. BHEL having a huge Order Book of almost Rs. two lakh crores have to complete all projects and orders as scheduled and meet the expectations of the customers. He further said that Bhopal Unit because of its diversified product range is one of the most important Units of BHEL and the employees of the Unit have to stand out as Role Model for others. Office bearers of WIPS, Bhopal Chapter were also felicitated for their outstanding contribution during the year. At the end prizes were distributed to the winners of various competitions conducted by BHEL, WIPS Bhopal. The programme was compered by Parul Shrivastava & Amrita Anand Karmarkar while Ms. Clara Toppo, AGM (PCG) proposed the vote of thanks.

Bol signs MoU with MPPGCL to offer enhanced salary

Bhopal: The Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company Limited (MPPGCL) and Union Bank of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Wednesday to facilitate the opening of salary accounts for MPPGCL employees and officers. Under this agreement, Union Bank of India has committed to providing an array of exclusive and enhanced facilities under its corporate salary account scheme. Speaking on the occasion, Samir Kumar, the Chief Manager of Union Bank, said the bank will offer superior services compared to other banks, including zero balance accounts and access to a range of digital products. In addition to basic banking services, the employees will benefit from concessions on interest rates for loan accounts, discounts on locker rentals, top-tier debit cards, complimentary medical and accident insurance, term life insurance, and overdraft facilities. Union Bank emphasized that the salary account scheme is specifically tailored to offer comprehensive financial support to MPPGCL employees, combining ease of banking with value-added services.

Youth brutally attacked at People’s Mall, assailant still at large

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

A youth was brutally attacked by an unidentified assailant at People's Mall in the Karond area of Bhopal, leaving him critically injured with around 25 stitches on his face and head. The incident, which occurred on April 24 at around 7:30 pm, has raised serious concerns over public safety in one of the city's busiest recreational spots. The victim, Sami, a resident of Panchmukhi Hanuman Mandir locality near Fiza Hospital under Talaiya police station limits, was out with his fiancée Zoya when the attack took place. According to the police complaint, the couple had gone to a nearby shop to buy ice cream when an unidentified youth suddenly approached them and started hurling abuses without provocation. When Sami objected, the assailant drew a knife from his waist and attacked him viciously, targeting his head and face before fleeing the scene while issuing death threats. Sami was immediately rushed to Hamidia Hospital in critical condition, where doctors administered approximately 25 stitches to treat his injuries.

Despite the severity of the assault, more than 24 hours after the incident, police have neither apprehended the attacker nor retrieved CCTV footage from the mall premises. Speaking to the media, Sami's brother Shadab expressed deep frustration over the slow pace of the investigation, noting that the family is still awaiting updates from authorities. Shadab added that Sami, though in critical condition, has clearly stated that he can identify the attacker, which could aid the investigation if acted upon swiftly. The Nishatpura police have registered a case against the unidentified accused and initiated an investigation. Senior officers assured that efforts are underway to examine CCTV footage and trace the suspect. However, the delay in action has sparked public outrage, with citizens questioning the effectiveness of security measures at crowded public places like People's Mall. The incident serves as a grim reminder of growing security challenges in public spaces, and the victim's family has urged authorities to expedite the investigation and bring the perpetrator to justice without further delay.



Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan distributes appointment letters to the newly recruits in the Government jobs during a Rozgar Mela, at Samanvay Bhawan in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

Three tribal children drown in Satna district dam

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

In a tragic incident, three tribal children from Kandaila village drowned while bathing in deep water at Amua Dam, located in the Dharkundi police station area of Satna district. The victims, identified as Abhijeet Kol (6), Abhi Kol (5), and Krishna Kol (5), lost their lives on the spot. According to police, four children had gone to bathe at the dam when the accident occurred. One child, who

remained on the embankment, witnessed the drowning and immediately rushed two kilometers back to the village to alert others. Villagers promptly informed the police, and within 30 minutes, the bodies were recovered. Dharkundi police station in-charge Shailendra Singh and Majhgawan Tehsildar Somesh Dwivedi arrived at the scene along with a police team. Administrative officials assessed the situation and assured the bereaved families of

all possible assistance. Immediate financial aid of Rs 25,000 per family was provided through the Red Cross, Tehsildar Somesh Dwivedi confirmed. Following Panchnama proceedings, the bodies were sent for post-mortem. According to TI Shailendra Singh, the dam is a frequent spot for fishing and bathing for tribal villagers from nearby areas. Authorities have urged local residents to exercise caution around water bodies.

Decaying tiger carcass found in Pench

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

The discovery of a badly decomposed tiger carcass in Pench Tiger Reserve on Saturday has triggered an investigation, raising questions about patrolling and forest management in the protected area.

The carcass was found in the dense Rukhad buffer zone by a patrolling team. Officials said the body was several days old, with most parts having already decomposed when discovered.

Forest officials, field staff, and a dog squad quickly arrived at the site to begin an investigation. A post-mortem examination is underway, conducted by a wildlife veterinarian summoned from Pench.

The carcass was located deep within the dense forests of the Rukhad East Beat, beyond

Masoolnala. Its advanced stage of decomposition has made determining the exact cause of death challenging.

Officials said that detailed information would only be shared once the examination is complete. They are also checking whether any body parts are missing from the carcass.

The discovery has cast doubt on claims made by Pench management regarding regular jungle patrolling. Officials, however, have refrained from commenting publicly on the effectiveness of monitoring efforts.

This is not the first such incident. On 20 February 2025, a tiger cub's carcass was found in a dry rivulet under the Khawasa range of Pench Tiger Reserve.

Shockingly, a live tiger cub was seen feeding on the dead cub's body at the site. Forest staff

rushed to the spot after receiving information from local eco-development officials.

Earlier, in January, a tigress aged around 4-5 years was found dead in Seoni during her movement. Electrocutation was suspected, but investigations are still ongoing.

Similarly, a male tiger aged three to four years was discovered dead in the Kurai range of Pench. The forest department performed last rites after finding the carcass.

During a routine patrol, staff detected a strong smell of rotting meat. Following the odour, they discovered a tiger carcass about 20-25 metres off the trail.

Bloodstains were visible in the soil around the carcass, suggesting a violent end. The patrolling team immediately alerted senior officials, and the investigation got underway.

Pakistani short-term visa holders must leave

Bhopal: The Madhya Pradesh Police has directed Pakistani nationals residing in the state to leave India by April 27, 2025, in compliance with a central government directive. Those failing to depart by the stipulated date will face deportation proceedings, officials confirmed on Friday.

Inspector General of Police (Intelligence) Anshuman Singh informed The Pioneer that the number of Pakistani nationals residing in Madhya Pradesh is relatively small compared to other states, largely because the Union Home Ministry has granted exemptions to individuals who hold long-term visas (LTVs). "Currently, there are more than 200 Pakistani nationals present in Madhya Pradesh. However, only about 15 individuals are on long-term visas," Singh said.

He further explained that under the fresh directive, visas for those without LTV protection will expire effective April 27, after which authorities will begin formal

deportation procedures. "We have already issued instructions to all district police units to notify concerned individuals about the deadline. They have been clearly informed that they must leave India by the specified date," Singh added.

The move is part of a larger national exercise initiated by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), aimed at regulating the stay of foreign nationals following heightened security and immigration concerns. Individuals who continue to remain illegally after their visa expiry may face detention under the Foreigners Act, with deportation carried out through diplomatic channels.

Senior police officials clarified that the exemption for long-term visa holders applies primarily to those who have migrated due to religious persecution or humanitarian grounds and who are in the process of applying for citizenship under the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).



People light candles to pay tributes to the victims of Pahalgaon terror blast, at Roshanpura square in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo



Minister for Health and Family Welfare Rajendra Shukla and other guests release a souvenir during a national programme on the theme Suicide Across Population: Challenges and Solutions under the banner of Indian Association of Private Psychiatry (IAPP) in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

BMC in environment spot, who will fine?

Bhopal: Despite a massive fire at the Adampur landfill being common knowledge, the Bhopal Municipal Corporation has maintained a conspicuous silence over the smouldering waste on its social media platforms and the daily media brief it issues to the press.

Largely unreachable, BMC officials have responded to speculation around the cause and handling of the fire by selectively leaking information to hand-picked media outlets.

This silence has backfired. Besides triggering speculations, it has also made evident that the civic body is attempting to manage coverage around an incident with serious implications for the environment and public health.

As per available information, the fire was triggered by methane emissions from lakhs of tonnes of

unsegregated waste lying unchecked at the site. Sources say municipal officials responsible for the landfill escalated the matter to the BMC headquarters only after the fire had spiralled out of control.

Media persons and photographers who reached the site after smoke became visible from across the city say that even at that late stage, BMC officials tried to block coverage and downplay the incident.

The landfill is managed by a private contractor under the supervision of BMC officials responsible for ensuring safe and environmentally sound handling of waste. That municipal officials allowed the waste to accumulate unsegregated despite a significant rise in mercury since March is a lapse that deserves closer scrutiny. This isn't the first time that mishandling of waste at the site has sparked concern. In

2023, the National Green Tribunal levied a Rs 1.8 crore penalty on the civic body after finding gaps in waste management at Adampur, one of the largest landfills in the state.

Though official word on the matter is unavailable, reports suggest that the BMC now plans to levy a penalty on its landfill contractor for lapses in its discharge of duties. However, there is no indication of any action against civic officials responsible for supervision. Ironically, the BMC is among the agencies tasked with ensuring clean air in the city. Over the past year, municipal inspections have led to lakhs in spot fines against citizens for non-compliance with environmental guidelines. At a time when Adampur smoulders and the civic body appears to be working to deflect attention from the incident, questions, like smoke, just hang in the air.

BMC lifts illegally parked vehicles

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

In an anti-encroachment drive spanning several areas in the state capital on Saturday, Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) teams lifted vehicles and removed illegal structures from roads, footpaths and public spaces to maintain public convenience and civic order.

The action, which followed complaints on the CM Helpline, saw the encroachment squads demolish illegally constructed staircases, walls, huts and sheds across several city areas. Two carts were also seized.

Under instructions from Commissioner Harendra Narayan, teams took action in Durga Nagar, 80 Feet Road, Ashoka Garden, Mata Mandir, Nehru Nagar Square, New Market no-vehicle zone and

other locations.

The squads dismantled encroachments placed along 80 Feet Road, cleared about 40 illegally parked two-wheelers at New Market, and removed two unauthorised sheds in the Khajuri Kalan area during the operation.

In addition, a staircase built illegally behind Sadhu Vaswani School in Bairagarh, and two huts and a wall in Subhash Nagar, were demolished during Saturday's drive.

Officials also cleared a large number of carts, stalls, sugarcane crushers and goods kept illegally outside shops. Two handcarts were seized as part of the enforcement action. Municipal staff warned violators not to re-encroach upon public spaces, cautioning that any future violations would invite even sterner action from the authorities.

The well-being of every citizen is key to a healthy India: Shukla

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

Deputy Chief Minister Rajendra Shukla stated that the vision of a developed India by 2047, envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, can only be realized by ensuring the good health of every citizen. He emphasized that alongside tackling various physical illnesses, overcoming mental health issues is equally essential, where psychiatrists will play a vital role.

Shukla was addressing the inaugural session of the first National Psychiatry Conference of Central India, being held in Bhopal. The two-day conference has attracted 45 eminent speakers from across the country.

Highlighting the importance of mental well-being, Shukla said that the first happiness in life is good health. In today's globalized era, mental stress is increasingly common among youth, primarily due to overwhelming anxiety, intense competition, fear of failure, and excessive use of mobile phones and other digital devices. In such a scenario, the role of psychiatrists becomes even more crucial.

He also expressed concern over the alarming global statistic of nearly 1 million suicides annually. Shukla remarked that the solutions to such problems are deeply rooted in India's ancient traditions, with several institutions continuously promoting the practices of yoga and meditation. He added that there is

still significant potential for expansion in these areas.

Deputy Chief Minister Shukla shared that the state government has initiated specialized mental health services in dedicated rooms at each district hospital for the treatment and counseling of mentally ill patients. He stressed that, along with medical treatment, maintaining continuous communication with mental health patients is crucial.

He noted that issues like phobias, mental disorders among youth, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, and obsessive-compulsive disorders are increasingly being diagnosed, urging psychiatrists to approach their work with a spirit of dedication.

Dr. Saloni Sidana, Director of the National Health Mission, Madhya Pradesh, informed that special emphasis is being placed on mental health treatment within the National Health Mission framework. She mentioned that understanding a patient's environment is critical for effectively diagnosing mental health problems. Dr. Sidana also highlighted that the state offers free consultations 24x7 via the Tele-MANAS helpline, which has successfully handled over 300,000 calls to date.

Other speakers included Dr. Kavita Singh, Dean of Gandhi Medical College Bhopal; Dr. R.N. Sahu and Dr. Mrigesh Vaishnav from the Indian Association of Private Psychiatry (IAPP). The program was conducted by Dr. Samiksha Sahu.

VD warns of stern action against indiscipline and Love Jihad

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

During a meeting of the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Disciplinary Committee held at the state party headquarters in Bhopal on Saturday, BJP State President and Khajuraho MP Vishnu Dutt Sharma emphasized that discipline remains a core value of the party's functioning and warned that indiscipline or anti-social activities would not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Sharma said that communication and outreach are hallmarks of the BJP's organizational style, but those violating discipline—whether workers, office-bearers, or elected representatives—would face immediate and strict action. He added, "There is no place for indisci-

pline in our organization. Those who attempt it will be dealt with swiftly."

In a strong message against "Love Jihad," Sharma asserted that those involved in misleading and exploiting women under such tactics would not be spared. "Those indulging in Love Jihad will face such stringent action that it will become a precedent," he said, adding that the state government under Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has already taken the recent Bhopal case seriously by forming a Special Investigation Team (SIT). He vowed that every culprit involved would be tracked and punished, setting a strong example.

Detailing the disciplinary discussions, Sharma informed that the party leadership held conversations with two mayors and two MLAs, namely Pradeep Patel

and Pritam Singh Lodhi, regarding certain reported matters. While Lodhi could not attend due to being out of station, Sharma said he would meet the committee later. The party has also interacted with the Chairperson of Bina Municipality and the Mayor of Dewas, and a notice has been issued to the Mayor of Sagar who failed to attend.

On the issue of illegal Pakistani nationals residing in Madhya Pradesh, Sharma said that the state government is actively identifying and removing nearly 220 Pakistani citizens, some of whom have overstayed illegally. He assured that stern action will be taken against them, reaffirming the government's commitment to national security.

AIIMS organises workshop

Bhopal: The Department of Microbiology organized a two-day workshop titled "Training/Brainstorming Session on Developing Strategies for the Prevention of Waterborne Hepatitis and Hands-on Training on Serology and Molecular Identification."

The objective of the workshop was to develop effective strategies for the identification, prevention, and treatment of waterborne hepatitis, and to provide practical training in serology and molecular diagnostic techniques. District epidemiologists, medical officers, postgraduate students, and laboratory technicians from across the state participated in the workshop.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I MANPYARE AHIRWAR S/O RAGGU AHIRWAR R/O Gram-V Banne Bujurg Tikamgarh Madhya Pradesh-472115 changed my minor Son's name SUMIT AHIRWAR to AMRAT AHIRWAR aged 9 Years.

PD(1935)A

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
QUALITY CONTROL UNIT DIVISION
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, BHOPAL
E:mail ecphedqcbpl@mp.gov.in Telephone No. 0755-2661511
Shyamla Hills, Bhopal (M.P.)

NIT No. 01/TS/EE/QCU/PHED/2024-25, Bhopal, Dated : 24.04.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online digitally sealed tenders are invited on behalf of the Governor of M.P. for the following work in Form "C" From Manufacturer or their authorized Agency to be provided for "Supply of ISI Mark Galvanized Mild Steel Tubes with ISI Marked Socket (G.I. Pipe)". Tender can be purchase from 24.04.2025 to 09.05.2025 at 16:00 hours & submission of tender 09.05.2025 at 16:00 hours. Envelop "A" will be open on 13.05.2025 at 11:00 hours Website: www.mptenders.gov.in (E-Tender No 2025_PHED_418867_1, Date 24.04.2025).

S. No.	Name of work	Probable amount of contract	Earnest Money	Cost of tender documents	Time allowed for completion
1	"Supply of ISI Mark Galvanized Mild Steel Tubes with ISI Marked Socket (G.I. Pipe)"		Rs. 500000.00 (Rs. Five Lakh Only)	Rs. 2000.00 (Rs. Two Thousand Only)	3 Months

1. Detailed condition can be seen in this office in working hours.
2. Date for purchase of tender : 24.04.2025 to 09.05.2025 upto 16:00 hours.
3. Date of submission of tender: 24.04.2025 to 09.05.2025 upto 16:00 hours.
4. Pre Bid Meeting Held on Dated: 01.05.2025, 16:00 hours, in office hours.
5. Envelop A will be open on dated : 13.05.2025 at 11:00 hours.

Ashish Martand
Executive Engineer
Quality Control Unit Division, Bhopal

G-12008/25

Tuition classes rule as schools close for summer

KISHAN SINGH RANA ■ Bhopal

As most schools in the state capital closed for the two-month summer holiday on Saturday, private tuition centres are preparing for a fresh influx of students. Amid rising inflation, soaring school fees, and mounting concerns over falling education standards, parents say that private tuition is no longer a "luxury" but a "necessity".

Once limited to board exam aspirants, tuition culture today extends to children as young as those in Class 3. Experts link this trend to growing academic competition, overcrowded classrooms, and heightened parental anxiety about their children's futures.

"With school fees increasing every year and separate payments for tuition, it's becoming unmanageable for middle-class families like ours," said Sunita Sharma, 39, a homemaker from Bairagarh. Her husband, a sales executive, and she spend almost Rs 8,000 a month on tuition for their two children, apart from

school fees.

Bijendra Singh Tomar, a UPSC aspirant father, recalled, "In our time, coaching was for weak students. Later, it became a luxury for the rich. Now, it's an inseparable part of education. I haven't seen anyone top without coaching."

His son, Ashish, added, "With inflation and the rat race, we need tuition to stay ahead. We want to build a secure future for ourselves and our parents."

Vikram Thakur, a farmer and father of two, said, "My income depends on God and the weather. I don't want my children's lives to be so uncertain. I'm ready to sacrifice everything to give them a better education. Coaching helps them stay focused."

Santosh Singh Tomar, who has a college-going daughter and a school-going son, shared, "We live near Mrinal Residency. Their school fees are over Rs 2 lakh a year. It's a heavy burden, but if they succeed, our prayers will be answered. If not, it will all be for nothing."

Parents, students, and educa-

tionists alike agree: private tuition has become indispensable. "In classes of 40 to 50 students, a teacher can't give individual attention," said Rohit Thakur, 16, a Class 10 student from Kolar. "At tuition, at least my doubts are properly cleared."

Earlier reserved for the wealthy, the trend has now spread to lower-income groups, with parents enrolling children in English, mathematics, and science coaching. "Schools today are focused on projects, functions, and formalities. Core learning often takes a backseat," said Vibha Mathur, a tuition teacher in Arera Colony. The financial strain is stark. "Last year, my son's school increased fees by 9 per cent, and now his tuition teacher has raised charges too," said Amit Verma, a bank employee from Ayodhya Nagar. "Household bills have almost doubled. It feels like we earn only to pay fees."

"Earlier, Rs 2,500 per month sufficed for good tuition. Now, for senior classes, it's Rs 5,000 or more per subject," said Neeraj Yadav, a coaching teacher from MP Nagar.

Competitive exam coaching comes at a premium. For IIT-JEE and NEET, institutes charge between Rs 1.2 lakh and Rs 2.5 lakh a year. "My daughter is preparing for NEET, and we are paying Rs 1.8 lakh annually, apart from school fees," said Deepak Jha, 47, an LIC agent near Hoshangabad Road.

Manish Pandey, a senior CBSE school teacher in Shahpura, said, "Students are becoming too reliant on spoon-feeding. Many schools have become commercialised, pushing parents towards coaching."

"My neighbour's son has joined a Rs 50,000 summer crash course for IIT preparation. We can't even dream of affording that," said Neelam Patel, 35, a single mother from Govindpura.

"If schools consistently delivered quality education, there would be no need for private coaching," said Ravindra Verma, a retired educationist.

Experts warn that over-scheduling children could harm their autonomy, mental health, and long-term motivation.

Binary system to make NAAC accreditation simpler

STAFF REPORTER ■ Bhopal

After observing that a large number of higher education institutes were avoiding participation in the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) accreditation process due to fear of being exposed for their quality and standards, the Higher Education Department has decided to implement the binary accreditation system from next month.

The department believes that the new system, which categorises institutions simply as "Accredited" or "Not Accredited," will encourage wider participation.

"Binary accreditation will motivate more higher education institutes to join the assessment process, as it eliminates the fear associated with grading. Earlier, NAAC graded institutions under categories like A++, A+, A, B+, and C, which created apprehensions among institutions about their quality being exposed.

equitas

SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD

Registered Office : No. 769, Spencer Plaza, 4th Floor, Phase-II, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600002.

SALE NOTICE FOR THE SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable assets under SARFAESI Act, 2002, R/w rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers, Co borrowers and Guarantors that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd., will be sold on 28-05-2025 "AS IS WHERE IS" "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION" for recovery of below mentioned amount due to Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd., from the following borrowers.

Borrower/s & Guarantor/s Name & Address Total Due + Interest from	Description of the Immovable Property
Mr. PRAVIN S/O. VALLABH Mr. VALLABH S/O. SEETARAM Mr. GHEESI BAI W/O. VALLABH All are residing at Gram - Sagur Teh - Bhikangan Dist - Khargone M.P Khargone-451331 Loan Account No:- SEKRGNE0318198 Claim Amount Due Rs.244097/- as on 03-02-2023 with further interest from 04-02-2023 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc., (Total Outstanding being Rs. 577516/- as on 16-04-2025).	Item - 1 All the piece and parcel of land along with building permission situated at Village Sagur PH.No.49 Kharsa No.42 Tehsil Bheekangan District Khargone MP Total and Measuring of land Area - 26 * 80 = 1600 Sq.Ft. North by : HOUSE OF SUKHDEH, South by : HOUSE OF RADHESYAM, East by : STREET, West by : HOUSE OF GOPAL Measurement 20*80 = 1600 sq.ft. Situated at within the Sub-Registration District of KHARGONE and Registration District of KHARGONE. Together with all buildings and structure attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to earth, both present and future and all easementary / mamool rights annexed thereto. Reserve Price: Rs. 6,60,000 /-, Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 66,000/- Authorised Officer Name & Contact : Satyendra Dawane : 9009404828, Shanu Diwakar : 9669976818
Mr. Yashwant S/o. Manak Singh Mr. Manak Singh S/o. Kashiram Mr. Bhagvanti Bai W/o. Manak All are residing at Gram - Undol Pedmi, Indore - 452020 Madhya Pradesh Loan Account No:- SEPLNIA0366016 Claim Amount Due Rs.364579/- as on 02-01-2024 with further interest from 03-01-2024 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc., (Total Outstanding being Rs. 609845/- as on 16-04-2025).	ALL THE PIECE AND PARCEL SITUATED AT SURVEY NO.217, P H NO.35 (New 80), Gram Undol Pedmi, THE. KHUDEI, DIST. INDORE M P 452020. North by : vacant land, South by : common road, East by : vacant plot, West by : road. Measurement : 33*33 =1089sqft. (101.02 Sq.mt.). Situated at within the Sub-Registration District of Indore and Registration District of Indore. Together with all buildings and structure attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to earth, both present and future and all easementary / mamool rights annexed thereto. Reserve Price: Rs. 3,92,000 /-, Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 39,200/- Authorised Officer Name & Contact : Satyendra Dawane : 9009404828, Shanu Diwakar : 9669976818

For details and queries on purchase and sale : The intending bidders/purchasers are advised to visit ESFB Branch and the auction properties, and make his own enquiry and ascertain additional charges, encumbrances and any third-party interests and satisfy himself/herself in all aspects there to before submitting the bid. All statutory dues like property taxes, electricity/water dues and any other dues, if any, attached to the property to be ascertained and paid by the successful bidder. The interested bidders are required to register themselves with the portal and obtain login ID and password well in advance. The intending purchaser/bidder is required to submit amount of the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of NEFT/RTGS/DD in the account of "Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd", Account No- 200000807725 and IFSC Code- ESFB0001001, Bhaggyam Galleria, New No. 18, Bazulla Road, T. Nagar, Chennai - 600 017 drawn on any nationalized or scheduled Bank on or before 27-05-2025. For detailed terms and conditions of the E-Auction sale, please refer to the link provided www.equitasbank.com & <https://www.bankauctions.com>

Date - 27.04.2025, Place - MP Authorized officer, Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd

Government taking measures for employment opportunities: Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Saturday that his government is taking several measures to ensure that the opportunities for employment and self-employment keep growing.

Addressing the 15th edition of Rozgar Mela after distributing more than 51,000 appointment letters to recruits in different departments of the central government, he said it is a time for unprecedented opportunities for youngsters.

In the virtual event, he noted that the International Monetary Fund has said India will remain the fastest-growing major economy, asserting that employment opportunities will be rising in every sector.

The production and export in automobile and footwear industries have hit new records, generating employment in large numbers, Modi said.

Citing the difference his government has made, the prime minister listed out that cargo being handled through inland water transparent has surged to 145 million tonnes from 18 million tonnes before 2014 while national waterways have increased from five to 110, and their length from 2,700 km to over 5,000 km. The prime minister said a big highlight was that growth has been inclusive and noted that the participation of women has risen in every sector.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually attends a Rozgar Mela event

PTI

Three of the five toppers in this year's UPSC exam are women, he said, adding over 90 lakh self-help groups have more than 10 crore women working for them. India's women power is scaling new heights in fields ranging from bureaucracy to space and science, and the government is also focusing on empowering rural women, he said.

In this decade, the youth has powered

India's rise in technology, data, and innovation, Modi said while noting that the country leads in real-time digital transactions. When the youth actively contributes to nation-building, the country experiences accelerated development and earns recognition on the global stage, he said. Modi said his government is ensuring at every step that employment and self-employment opportunities for the

country's youth continue to grow.

Mentioning initiatives like Skill India, Startup India, and Digital India, the prime minister said they are creating new opportunities for the youth and providing an open platform to showcase their talents.

India's youth are demonstrating to the world through their dedication and innovation the immense potential that the country possesses, he added.

Modi asserted that the World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES), to be held in Mumbai, will also be a big opportunity for youngsters to showcase their skills on a global platform.

They will also get to understand Artificial Intelligence and immersive media, and the event will infuse a new energy into the sphere of digital content, he said, adding that for innovators in the media, gaming, and entertainment, WAVES is an unprecedented opportunity to showcase their talent.

In this budget, the prime minister said, the government has announced the 'Manufacturing Mission' with a goal to promote the 'Make in India' initiative and provide the country's youth with the opportunity to create products of global standards.

"Manufacturing Mission will not only support millions of MSMEs and small entrepreneurs across the country but will also open up new employment avenues nationwide," Modi added.

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra to resume after 5-year pause

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

India and China will, after a gap of five years, resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra from June. This move is seen as an attempt to normalise the ties between the two countries that nosedived following the standoff at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Saturday said the Yatra is set to take place from June to August via two routes — Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and Nathu La in Sikkim.

The pilgrimage to Mount Kailash and Mansarovar Lake in China's Tibet Autonomous Region holds religious significance to Hindus as well as Jains and Buddhists. "Kailash Mansarovar Yatra organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is set to take place during June to August 2025," it said.

The Yatra was suspended initially in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequently because of the military standoff between the two sides on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh. The militaries of India and China completed disengagement of troops at the two remaining friction points of Demchok and Depsang under a pact sealed on October 21 last year.

Two days later, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks in the Russian city of Kazan and agreed to revive various bilateral dialogue mechanisms.

Following the Modi-Xi talks, the two

sides held a series of meetings in the last few months which were aimed at normalising the bilateral relations.

In January, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri visited Beijing and held talks with his Chinese counterpart Sun Weidong. In the meeting, the two sides decided to resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and agreed to take certain people-centric steps to "stabilise and rebuild" ties.

Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Saturday said the Yatra is set to take place from June to August via two routes — Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and Nathu La in Sikkim

"This year, five batches, each consisting of 50 Yatris, and 10 batches, each consisting of 50 Yatris, are scheduled to travel through Uttarakhand State crossing over at Lipulekh Pass, and through Sikkim state crossing over at Nathu La Pass, respectively," the MEA said in the readout.

The applications for the Yatra can be submitted at the website: kmy.gov.in, it noted.

The Yatris will be selected from among applicants through a "fair, computer-generated, random and gender-balanced" selection process, MEA said.

"Since 2015, the entire process commencing with on-line application till selection of Yatris is a fully computerised process," according to the MEA.

Kashmiriyat lives on as *pony wallah* loses his life, shielding guests

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Pony wallah who laid down his life trying to save visitors to his homeland, a guide who rescued a family of 11 and countless locals are among those who added another dimension to Kashmir's hospitality when terror struck Pahalgam on a calm Tuesday afternoon.

In what is the deadliest attack in the Valley since the Pulwama strike in 2019, terrorists opened fire in Baisaran, a popular tourist spot in the upper reaches of Pahalgam in Kashmir, killing 26 people, mostly holidaymakers from other states.

As tourists and families of victims from across the country reached home from Kashmir and outrage spread, stories of locals helping those who were stuck in the terrifying ordeal flooded in. Kashmir, their stories told the world, was also about those who had saved their lives and extended a helping hand in times of their greatest crisis.

When the initial list of victims was made public, Syed Adil Hussain Shah's was the only name of a local. The story of his bravery made thousands, including Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah, attend his funeral on Wednesday in Pahalgam's Hapatnard village.

As the families of Kaustubh Ganbote and Santosh Jagdale, two of the victims, stood face to face with the armed terrorists, the 30-year-old pony 'wallah' confront-

ed them asking why they were killing innocent people. In a courageous attempt to protect the tourist, the young man tried to snatch away the weapon. Shah succumbed to three bullets to the chest.

Asavari Jagdale, who lost her father Santosh Jagdale and uncle Kaustubh Ganbote, recalled being helped by another pony rider as they escaped the mayhem.

"I gathered courage and managed to escape with my mother and aunt. While coming down, my mother suffered leg injuries. A pony rider offered us support and hope. He gave us a pony ride to our driver," Asavari, who had travelled from Pune, recounted.

She added that her cab driver and pony ride operator were "like angels sent from God who stood by her at the time of the attack". "The pony ride operator did not leave us behind, he was with us. He rescued my aunt, mother and me from the spot," she said.

The cab driver remained in touch even after she left Srinagar and "offered to help in every possible way".

"He asked us to tell him any help we need, whether it was money. He is a driver who still wants to help us. He was crying on the call and also when I was leaving from Srinagar. I thanked him, I told him that because of his presence I did not feel lonely. He cried saying that he is sad for my loss. They were like angels sent by God."



Syed Adil Hussain Shah

FILE PHOTO

Nazakat Ahmed Shah, a cousin of Shah, was also at the venue of the massacre and was instrumental in saving the lives of 11 tourists, including three children.

The 28-year-old had taken four couples and three children to Baisaran on the last leg of their Kashmir trip. Just before the group was about to leave the location, the sound of gunfire alerted Nazakat who fell to the ground with two of the children.

"My first concern was the safety of the tourist families. I took Lucky's kid and another child and lay down on the ground. The area was fenced so it was not easy to escape. I noticed a small opening and asked the families to move out through that opening. They asked me to save the chil-

dren first. I slipped through it with the two kids, and ran towards Pahalgam town," Nazakat said. After depositing the children in a safe place, he returned to the spot and escorted the others out safely. "Thanks to Allah, I took all our 11 guests safely to Pahalgam," he said.

The story of Nazakat's selfless act came out when Arvind Agrawal, one of the tourists, posted pictures of him and his daughter with Shah on his social media handle. "You saved our lives by risking your own, we will never be able to repay the debt of Nazakat Bhai," he wrote.

Kuldeep Sthapak, another tourist, wrote on social media: "Nazakat bhai, you not only saved my life that day, you kept humanity alive. I will never forget you for the rest of my life."

An indelible face of compassion above all else was tourist guide Sajad Ahmad Bhat. Videos of him scurrying down the mountainside with a child on his back were circulated widely and many wanted to know who this brave, helpful man was.

"Humanity above all... this is the murder of humanity," Bhat said.

When he reached the meadow, many were crying for help. "We carried the injured on our ponies and took them to the Pahalgam hospital. We took at least 18-20 injured on ponies. There were two-three other men who carried people on their back. I carried a child on my back, offered water, took him to the hospital," the

shawl vendor and guide said.

Terming the attack a blot on humanity, he said all of Kashmir is in mourning.

"They should have instead killed us, it should not have happened to them (the tourists). We want to tell all Indians that we stand with them... We are all Indians."

Then there were those who were saved by cautious locals.

A five-member family from Buldhana district in Maharashtra vacationing in Pahalgam was about to step out for local sightseeing on the fateful day, unaware of the terror attack, but was stopped by the owner and staff of their hotel from going out in view of the tense situation.

Another couple from Maharashtra was helped by locals in quickly moving away from the site and reaching their hotel safely. Sakshi and Krishna Lolge, hailing from Nanded in Maharashtra, were at the Baisaran meadow some 15 minutes before the gunmen burst into the meadow.

"We heard the sound of firing after we moved a little away from the place," Sakshi said.

"If there was no support from local people, who helped us to move away fast, we would have not been able to make this video.

The local people helped the tourists a lot," she said in a video shot from her hotel. Her husband Krishna said their pony ride operators quickly rushed them down the hill.

CRPF QAT first team to respond to Pahalgam attack

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

A quick action team (QAT) of CRPF commandos was the first responder to the ghastly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam. The team reached the Baisaran meadow only to find droves of holidaymakers rushing down and three men who were shot at, officials said on Saturday.

The Delta company location of the CRPF's 116 battalion is the nearest security base, about four to five kilometres, from the scenic tourist spot where Pakistan-sponsored terrorists killed 26 people, mostly tourists, on April 22.

Rajesh Kumar, the commanding officer of the CRPF battalion, was moving out of the camp when he saw a number of "ponywallahs" and some tourists pacing down hurriedly from the heights, prompting him to stop them and ask questions. The ponywallahs said, "sahab, kuch hua hai upar Baisaran mein, Shayad goliyan chali hain (sir, something has happened at Baisaran, Bullets have probably been fired)", the officials said.

The CO immediately asked his QAT, stationed nearby, to report and a team of about 25 commandos soon began the 40-45 minute trek on the slushy and rocky track to reach the meadow.

The troops, the officials said, were mindful while climbing up as there was a huge possibility of pin-pointed fire coming from the top or a grenade being lobbed by the terrorists.

In the meantime, the local CRPF unit erected checkpoints around Pahalgam town and "secured" vantage points near the incident spot, they added.

The company commander of the Delta unit, Assistant Commandant Raashi Sikarwar, also joined in and was "tasked by the CO to take care of women and children as many of them were injured, screaming and scared".

The CRPF unit was "astounded" to find three men with bullet injuries lying on the ground and some women, chil-

dren and men hiding at different places when they reached the meadow around 2:30 pm on the fateful day.

The injured were evacuated by the Central Reserve Police Force's (CRPF) QAT personnel even as they did a brief combing of the area to look for the assailants as it was "clear in their minds that it was a terrorist attack".

The local station house officer (SHO) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police had arrived at the scene by then and the two forces joined efforts to take control of the situation.

Bodies were scattered, one was found near the gate of the meadow while at one spot, three of four were piled up, the officials said.

One of the injured men died, while the other two survived and were admitted to a nearby government hospital. About 30 to 40 tourists were housed in the Delta company's mess and provided with food and water, the officials said.

A senior security officer said the CRPF Delta company has all its units deployed across the area, including with the local police, and only a platoon strength (about 22 to 24 personnel) is usually available at the base.

There is a unit of the 3rd battalion of the Rashtriya Rifles (RR) a little far from the incident spot, he said.

These forces are not deployed for the security of the Baisaran meadow like many other tourist spots in the Kashmir valley. The upper reaches and dense forest areas in the valley are secured by routine patrols and by way of deployment when additional troops arrive ahead of the annual Amarnath Yatra in late May or June, the officer said.

The security forces, including the police, paramilitary and Army, have been asked to intensify operations and keep a "heightened vigil" in the wake of the attack, the biggest after the 2019 Pulwama strike, in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed when their convoy was bombed by terrorists.



RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat along with Swami Vignyanand and DU VC Yogesh Singh, Swami Krishnashah Vidyarthi and others during the launch of book 'Hindu Manifesto' by Swami Vignyanand, at the PM Museum in New Delhi

PTI

Humans to blame for drop in three-striped roofed turtles

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The three-striped roofed turtle, once found in numbers in the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers, has now largely disappeared with a government-funded study detecting an over 80 per cent drop in its population in half a century, largely due to habitat loss, illegal trade and pollution.

The study, supported by the National Mission for Clean Ganga, has revealed an alarmingly low genetic diversity in the rescued population of the freshwater reptile species, raising concerns over its long-term survival. Underscoring the urgent need for science-backed conservation efforts, the study called for long-term genetic tracking, stricter enforcement against poaching, and efforts to restore the semi-aquatic turtle's habitat, especially in its last stronghold - the National Chambal Sanctuary.

The sanctuary is located on the Chambal

river near the tri-point of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

"The population of Batagur dhongoka (three-striped roofed turtle) has experienced a substantial decline due to entanglement in fishing nets, the construction of major hydrological projects affecting river flow dynamics and nesting beaches, water pollution, and the detrimental effects of illegal trade," the study said.

Researchers from the Wildlife Institute of India analysed genetic samples from the turtles housed at two Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Centres - TRRC in Varanasi and GARRC in Narora - part of a captive care initiative under the Namami Gange programme. Using mitochondrial DNA and microsatellite markers, the study found that the population exhibit low levels of genetic variation, a warning sign for any species on the brink.

The genetic data showed only weak structuring between the two populations,

one from TRRC in Varanasi and the other from GARRC in Narora, suggesting past intermixing but also indicating the danger of inbreeding. The average heterozygosity was under 50 per cent and many individual turtles carried similar genetic markers. Moreover, the demographic pattern estimated by the Bayesian skyline plot (BSP) analysis indicates historical stability followed by growth in the effective population size, with a recent reduction in population size from 2,000 years ago.

The study flagged a major concern for the ongoing rehabilitation programme - a lack of clarity around the geographic origin of some rescued turtles. This not only makes it harder to plan successful reintroductions but also raises the risk of outbreeding depression if genetically mismatched turtles are placed with wild populations, it said.

"Gathering information on the geographic origin of individual (turtles) is

sometimes difficult and the release of these unknown origin rescue individuals in the wild is often accompanied by high initial losses of released individuals.

"Hence, while a small number of individual (turtles) are released locally, genetic monitoring is vital to understand the wider and long-term contemporary genetic diversity for effective management and conservation interventions," the research said. In order to ensure the effective protection and conservation of the three-striped roofed turtle, the government has taken a proactive measure by incorporating it into Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2022. Species under this schedule enjoys the highest level of protection.

The research from last year was among several key documents unveiled on a new portal launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to promote access to ecological data and conservation insights.

Rush at Attari-Wagah border

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Chandigarh

Ensure exemplary punishment for the Pahalgam terror attack perpetrators but spare the regular folks from bearing the brunt. That was the common refrain among Pakistani visitors at the Attari-Wagah land route racing to exit India ahead of a short deadline.

India has announced that all visas issued to Pakistani nationals will be revoked from April 27 and advised Indians residing in Pakistan to return home at the earliest, as tensions between the two countries escalated over the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people, mostly tourists.

Medical visas issued to Pakistani nationals are valid till April 29.

Most of the Pakistani nationals exiting through the told PTI that they had come to meet their kin in India. Some were here to attend weddings but now have to rush back home without participating.

"It was my niece's wedding today. I came after 10 years but still couldn't attend the ceremony," said a visibly upset Baskari, a Karachi resident who had come to Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur along with her husband.

Her husband Mohd Rasheed said that they arrived in India on April 10 on a 45-day visa. "My wife was born in India and my in-laws live here. The wedding was to take place in Saharanpur district today. Police came to our relative's home and asked us to leave immediately," he said.

His wife said, "It is saddening to leave on the day of the wedding. Peace should prevail between the two nations."

"Whatever happened in Pahalgam is wrong. Those behind it should be severely punished, but the common people should not have to face the brunt. People carrying out such acts have nothing to do with religion. Common people on both sides love each other. A handful of terrorists spoil the atmosphere," Rasheed said.



Pakistani nationals wait for clearance at the integrated check post at the Attari-Wagah border to move to their country on Saturday PTI

Another Pakistani national heading back home said he was in India for his mother's treatment and was lucky enough that it was over just a couple of days ago.

Bali Ram from Ghotki in Pakistan's northern Sindh said he was visiting his three daughters in Raipur when the news of the attack broke.

"I came on April 5 but now have to rush back. Those who carried out the act should be punished, but what in the fault of innocent tourists?"

Daulat from Karachi was in Jodhpur on a 45-day visa for a wedding. "Whatever happened (in Pahalgam) is not good. This should not have happened," she said while dragging a few trolley suitcases towards the exit gate.

Muzammil strongly condemned the April 22 terrorist attack, saying that "they should be hanged". An elderly man from Rawalpindi said he had come to Lucknow for a kin's wedding but had to cut short the trip now.

On Friday, Union Home Minister Amit

Shah called up the chief ministers of all the states and asked them to ensure that no Pakistani stays in India beyond the deadline set for leaving the country.

After Shah's telephonic conversations with the chief ministers, Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan held a video conference with the chief secretaries of all the states and asked them to ensure that all Pakistani nationals whose visas were revoked must leave India by the fixed deadline.

As many as 229 Pakistani nationals visiting India have returned home so far through the Attari-Wagah land route after the Centre set the deadline. A total of 392 Indian nationals visiting the neighbouring nation also returned, officials said.

The already strained relations between India and Pakistan nosedived further after the Pahalgam terror attack, with New Delhi announcing a raft of retaliatory steps, including the cancellation of visas, and Islamabad hitting back with a string of tit-for-tat measures.

DRG jawan injured in Bijapur IED blast

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Raipur

A District Reserve Guard (DRG) jawan was injured on Saturday when a pressure improvised explosive device (IED) planted by Naxalites went off in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district where a massive operation against Maoists was underway for the last six days.

The operation involving about 10,000 security personnel in a hilly region Karregutta, Durgamgutta and Pujarikankar along the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border was launched on Monday, a senior official said.

A DRG jawan sustained a minor injury when a pressure IED exploded this morning, he said. "The injured jawan was administered treatment at a camp of security forces and his condition was stated to be out of danger. He would be in a position for active duty very soon," the official said.

Another jawan belonging to the Special Task Force (STF) had sustained a minor sprain on ankle due to impact of an IED blast on April 24 morning during the operation, he said, adding that his condition was normal and he has recovered.

Talking to reporters here, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said, "Our security forces have been bravely and strongly fighting against Naxalites. Security forces have been carrying out a major operation against Naxalites on a hill along the Telangana-Chhattisgarh border, braving over 40 degrees Celsius in scorching summer."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has resolved to eliminate Naxalism by March 31, 2026 and the target will be achieved, he said. The operation, one of biggest counter-insurgency actions launched in the Bastar region, involves personnel of different units, including the DRG, Bastar Fighters and STF of the Chhattisgarh police, the Central Reserve Police Force and its elite Commando Battalions for



FILE PHOTO

Resolute Action (CoBRA). It is believed that some 500 cadres of the banned CPI (Maoist), including its top leaders, are holed up in the area, and Telangana Police are assisting in the exercise, said the official who is monitoring the action on the ground. On Thursday, three women Naxalites were killed on Karregutta hills, and a huge cache of weapons, explosives and other materials was recovered during the operation. The operation was launched on Monday in the densely forested hills of Karregutta and Durgamgutta along the inter-state border.

Parts of the area fall in the Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh, over 450 km away from state capital Raipur. It is believed to be the base of the PLGA (People's Liberation Guerilla Army) battalion No. 1, the strongest military formation of the Maoists, an official had said.

Intelligence inputs suggest more than 500 Naxalites belonging to PLGA battalion No 1, Telangana state committee and Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee of Maoists led by senior Maoists such as Hidma and Damodar are holed up in the area, he said. "It is a crucial operation because it would be a battle to finish off

the military strength of outlawed CPI (Maoists) by targeting PLGA battalion no 1 and the Maoists think tank in Dandakaranya special zonal committee (DKSZC) and Telangana state Committee," the official said.

"This operation is like a Test cricket match. It would last long and we would not get very exciting news in every session. But at the end of the match, we are hopeful of a very favourable result," the official said. Helicopters and drones are being used in the operation, the official added. Sources said that some jawans involved in the operation were shifted to hospital after they suffered dehydration and heatstroke.

The security forces have killed more than 350 Naxalites in a string of encounters, mostly centred in the Bastar region, since January last year. As many as 18 Naxalites, including 11 women, were killed in twin encounters in Bastar region on March 29. So far this year, 144 Naxalites have been gunned down in separate encounters in the state. Of these, 128 were eliminated in the Bastar division comprising seven districts, including Bijapur.

Politics fundamentally changed: Rahul Gandhi



Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi being welcomed by Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy upon his arrival at the airport in Hyderabad PTI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Hyderabad

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said democratic politics have fundamentally changed across the globe and the rules that applied a decade ago no longer hold good.

Addressing a gathering at Bharat Summit 2025 in the presence of Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the senior

Congress leader said in today's aggressive political atmosphere, the aim is to crush the Opposition and undermine the media.

Reflecting on his experiences during 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', Rahul said he realised that politicians have failed to listen to people's voices. "Politics, democratic politics have fundamentally changed across the globe. The rules that applied, I would say, a decade ago simply do not apply any

more. Sometimes, when I speak to younger members of our party, what was effective 10 years ago, the tools that worked 10 years ago, simply do not work anymore," he said.

"So in a sense, the old politician is dead and a new kind of politician has to be constructed," the AICC leader said. He also mentioned that he was originally scheduled to address the summit on Friday, but had to travel to Kashmir instead. The Congress MP thanked the delegates of Bharat Summit for their solidarity with India in the wake of Pahalgam terror attack.

The Bharat Summit, a two-day conclave focused on promoting meaningful dialogue on global justice, equity, and progressive cooperation, began on Friday.

Delivering the vote of thanks at the closing session of Bharat Summit 2025 Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt N Uttam Kumar Reddy said that freedoms of thought, speech, arts, academia, assembly and protest were under relentless attack by extreme right-wing and authoritarian regimes globally.

Reddy said it was a matter of pride that the Bharat Summit was being hosted in Hyderabad, Telangana, under a Congress-led government that is firmly committed to upholding liberal, democratic values.

Odisha targets 14 LMT of paddy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Bhubaneswar

The Odisha government has set a target to procure 14 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of paddy during the current Rabi season and decided to commence the exercise from May 1 in 20 of the 30 districts of the state, officials said on Saturday.

The decision was taken at the State-level Procurement Committee meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja on Friday. The meeting was also attended by the collectors of 20 districts through video conferencing, while Food Supply and Consumer Welfare Department Principal Secretary Sanjay Kumar Singh outlined issues for discussion.

Singh said that about 73.45 lakh metric tonnes of paddy was procured from nearly 16.60 lakh farmers in the last Kharif season. For this procurement, ₹16,853 crore was paid to farmers as minimum support price (MSP) and ₹5,862 crore as input assistance, he said.

Similarly, the procurement of paddy for the current Rabi season will begin on May 1 and continue till June 30, he said.

It has also been decided in the meeting to target procurement of 14 lakh metric tonnes of paddy in the current season, the official said. For Rabi paddy pro-

curement, about 3.37 lakh farmers have registered. "This year, procurement will be made in 20 districts, including newly added Kandhamal, Sundargarh and Bhadrak. "A total of 965 primary agricultural cooperative societies and 200 SHGs have also joined this exercise," the official said.

The chief secretary directed the collectors concerned to ensure that eligible farmers are not deprived of paddy procurement.

He also praised the effort for the distribution of tokens among farmers by validating paddy crop growing areas through satellite imagery technology by the Odisha Space Application Centre.

He also directed the authorities to immediately deploy nodal officers and supervisors for 'mandis', where all facilities will be available for farmers.

Like the Kharif season, ₹2,300 per quintal as MSP and ₹800 as input assistance will be directly disbursed to the farmer's account within 48 hours of paddy procurement, Ahuja said.

In addition, complaints can be made through toll-free no 1967, regarding paddy purchase.

Each mandi will be equipped with CCTV and each vehicle carrying paddy from a mandi to a mill must have a Vehicle Tracking System.

IIM Sirmaur holds ninth convocation at new campus

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ new delhi

The 9th Convocation of IIM Sirmaur was held on Saturday, at the permanent campus of IIM Sirmaur in Dhaula Kuan. The ceremony began with the academic procession.

After declaring the convocation open, Ajay S Shriram, Chairperson of BoG, addressing the audience, spoke about the Indian and global business environment and the resilience and growth of Indian businesses. He inspired students to come up with new ideas quickly and move with an open mind to position the businesses for resilience and growth.

Professor Prafulla Y Agnihotri, Director, IIM Sirmaur, presented the Institute's annual report, highlighting the milestones achieved by faculty, staff, and students over the past year. IIM Sirmaur currently offers six full-time programmes.

This year, it launched a one-year, full-time program specialising in Advanced Manufacturing Management in collaboration with RWTH Aachen, Germany. As of today, 92.5 per cent of the construction of the campus has been completed at a cost of ₹316 crores.

A major milestone this year was the shift to the permanent campus in July 2024 after receiving all statutory approvals from the relevant government departments.

Expanding its Long Duration Programmes (LDPs), IIM Sirmaur successfully launched the first batch of the Executive MBA (EMBA) and Executive MBA in Digital Transformation and Analytics (EMBA-DTA) programmes in April 2024.

It is also introducing two new Post Graduate Diploma Programs in collaboration with the National Stock Exchange (NSE) Academy, providing specialised knowledge in financial markets, investment strategies, and risk management.

Summer Placement this year saw participation from a record 202 companies for a batch of 298 students, with students interning with leading companies in India such as Accenture, EY, ICICI Bank, HDFC Life, Tech Mahindra, and Varun Beverages Ltd for final placements, around 150 companies visited the campus.

MP police ordered to salute MLAs, sparks row

GIRISH SHARMA ■ Bhopal

Director General of Police (DGP) Kailash Makwana's recent order directing Madhya Pradesh police personnel to compulsorily salute Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and ministers has come under heavy fire from political leaders across party lines, who termed it "redundant," "unnecessary," and "detrimental to impartial policing."

Strongly reacting to the directive, Leader of Opposition Umang Singhwar pointed out that formal protocols regarding respect and conduct towards elected representatives have long been established in the state's administrative guidelines. "There is no novelty in saluting an MLA or an MP — it is already part of the standard government protocol," Singhwar said. "Issuing such a directive at this point serves no purpose other than to reinforce a feudal mindset. Governance is about service, not subservience."

Madhya Pradesh Congress president Jitu Patwari went further, warning that such orders compromise the integrity of the police force. "When a ruling party MLA storms into a police station to shield his supporter, and the officer is forced to salute him first, how can people expect fair and unbiased action? This directive is a direct assault on the principle of neutrality in policing," Patwari stated.

Historically, the All India Services (Conduct) Rules and various administrative protocols have always ensured that government officials maintain decorum with elected representatives — but without undermining the independence and objectivity of their duties. Critics argue

that reiterating such basic courtesies through formal directives dilutes the spirit of democratic accountability and pushes the police force into a posture of political subservience.

Interestingly, unease over the directive is visible even within the ruling BJP. A senior BJP leader, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) State Secretary Rajneesh Agrawal said, "An MLA is a people's representative, not a feudal lord. "Instead of ordering salutes, police officers should be directed to act swiftly on public complaints routed through MLAs. A salute without action means nothing to the citizens."

Both Congress and many BJP leaders agree: in a democracy, respect must come from efficiency and justice, not from forced rituals

Political observers have also pointed out that previous attempts to overemphasize ceremonial respect have often backfired, eroding public trust in administrative fairness. In fact, the 2015 controversy surrounding a similar protocol advisory in another BJP-ruled state had sparked a nationwide debate on whether elected representatives should seek reverence or results.

At a time when policing needs to be seen as professional, independent, and people-centric, the latest directive risks sending the opposite message — that symbolism matters more than service.

Both Congress and many BJP leaders agree: in a democracy, respect must come from efficiency and justice, not from forced rituals.

Truck crushes ambulance in UP, four dead

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ Varanasi

In a devastating accident early on Saturday morning, four people, including a pregnant woman, lost their lives and two others sustained serious injuries when a gravel-laden truck overturned onto an ambulance on the Ahraura-Varanasi Shakti Nagar Road near an overbridge. The tragic incident took place when an ambulance, carrying a pregnant woman who had been referred from Lodhi Hospital in Sonbhadra to a hospital in Varanasi, was passing through the area.

Along with the pregnant woman, three of her family members were accompanying her in the ambulance. The vehicle was being driven by a professional ambulance driver, who was assisted by a colleague.

According to police sources, a truck

transporting gravel from a crusher plant in Sonbhadra towards Varanasi was moving at a high speed. As the truck approached the overbridge, the driver lost control of the vehicle. The truck overturned and crashed directly onto the ambulance, crushing it under the heavy load of gravel.

The force of the impact was so severe that all the occupants of the ambulance were trapped under the debris. Eyewitnesses quickly alerted the local authorities. Police teams, along with rescue units, reached the accident site and immediately launched a relief and rescue operation. Heavy machinery, including JCB earthmovers and Pokden excavators, were pressed into service to remove the debris and extract the victims. Sadly, four people died on the spot. The deceased have been identified as Heerawati Devi

(25), the pregnant woman and a resident of Kanhara village under Obra police station limits; Malti Devi (40), a resident of Jugail in Sonbhadra; Suraj Bali Kharwar (27), also from Kanhara; and Ramu, whose full address was not immediately available. Two other passengers — Kaushal Kumar Kharwar alias Bhailal, a resident of Kanhara, and Bhandari Sharma, a resident of Santnagar Gurma under Robertsganj police station area — were rescued from the rubble with serious injuries. They were immediately rushed to a nearby hospital for urgent medical treatment.

The driver of the truck fled the scene following the accident. Police have launched a manhunt to apprehend him and have begun a thorough investigation to ascertain the circumstances leading to the mishap.

Hanumangarhi's Mahant to meet Ramlala on April 30

KAMLESH SRIVASTAVA ■ Ayodhya

In an unprecedented spiritual development in Ayodhya, Mahant Premdas Maharaj, the incumbent head of the revered Hanumangarhi temple, will step outside the traditional boundaries of Hanumangarhi to visit Lord Ramlala at the Ram Janmabhoomi complex.

This marks a significant break from a centuries-old tradition that restricted the Mahant from venturing beyond the 52 bighas of Hanumangarhi.

On April 30 at 7 am, Mahant Premdas will embark on this historic journey, accompanied by thousands of saints and devotees.

"This is a moment of transformation," said Panch Sanjay Das of Sagariya Patti.

"For centuries, the sitting Mahant of Hanumangarhi remained within the temple premises, symbolising self-restraint and devotion. Today, under divine inspiration,

we are witnessing history being made."

As part of the ceremonial journey, Mahant Premdas will first proceed to the banks of the holy Saryu river via the VIP route from Hanumangarhi. After taking a royal ceremonial bath, he will continue towards the court of Ramlala.

A grand procession is planned, with showers of flowers at 40 designated points along the route, and even helicopters dropping petals from the sky.

The procession will feature elephants, horses, camels, and thousands of devotees in attendance, creating a spectacle reminiscent of Ayodhya's ancient glory.

Carrying the sacred flag and stick of Hanumangarhi, Mahant Premdas will be joined by Mahants and Panchs from all four Pattis of Hanumangarhi — Sagariya Patti, Ujjainiya Patti, Basantiya Patti, and Haridwari Patti.

"This is not just a visit; it is the beginning of a new chapter in Ayodhya's spiri-

tual history," emphasised Sanjay Das. "The decision was taken collectively by the All India Shri Panch Ramanandiya Nirvani Akhara Hanumangarhi after months of deliberation and prayer."

According to temple sources, for the past three months, Mahant Premdas had been experiencing spiritual visions and inspirations from Lord Hanuman himself, urging him to seek the darshan of Ramlala.

"Hanuman Ji has been inspiring the Mahant continuously," said a senior priest. "This journey is not a departure from tradition, but a fulfillment of divine will."

Religious scholars have welcomed the decision as a transformative event.

"The relationship between Hanuman and Lord Rama is eternal," said Acharya Rajendra Shastri, a noted religious commentator.

"By stepping out to meet Ramlala, the Mahant is symbolically reiterating Hanuman's eternal devotion to Ram. This

is an unprecedented step that will further enrich the spiritual culture of Ayodhya."

In a powerful gesture of devotion, 56 varieties of bhog will be offered to Lord Ramlala by the Hanumangarhi temple during the darshan, symbolising an offering of love, unity and spiritual bonding between two of Ayodhya's holiest sites.

Religious scholars have hailed this move as groundbreaking. "This is an unprecedented step. It signals the evolving spirit of Ayodhya where tradition meets a new spiritual awakening," said Acharya Rajendra Shastri, a leading religious commentator from Varanasi.

"Hanumangarhi and Ram Janmabhoomi represent two great pillars of Ayodhya's heritage, and this act strengthens the bond between them."

The procession is expected to draw thousands of pilgrims and onlookers, making April 30 a landmark day in the religious and cultural tapestry of Ramnagari.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Vatican City

Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, the 91-year-old dean of the College of Cardinals, delivered a lengthy, spirited and highly personal homily, or sermon. He eulogised Francis as a pope of the people, a pastor who knew how to communicate to the "least among us" with an informal, spontaneous style. "He was a pope among the people, with an open heart towards everyone," Re said. He drew applause from the

Despite Francis' focus on the powerless, the powerful were out in force at his funeral. US President Donald Trump and former President Joe Biden, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, and



pride of place given Francis' nationality, even if the two didn't particularly get along and the pope alienated many Argentines by never returning home.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ United Nations

PUBLIC NOTICE

ormed to let concern that Puspsha Kaur (S/o Gopi) /a Mahesh Chand Kaur H/o N. No-7 Church Langurba, Bhogol Delhi-110014 and Shivam Gaur Vinohr Singh/R/o 9-166 Sector-14-Noida are the Co-Pot no. C-2/32 Sector-31 Noida. Puspsha was executed a Registered GPA of her part in the above plot in favour of her sister Sheh Gaur/R/o Ravi/R/o 14 Sector-14 Noida. The date of registration in Book no. IV volume no. 1535 on page no. 210, Document no. 2224 at Sub. Registrar Noida. Puspsha Gaur applied in the Noida plot to transfer her share in the said above plot in favour of her sister Sheh Gaur which is still pending. The Public Notice was wanted to transfer her said above plot through registered GPA in favour of her husband Ranvir Singh/S/o Bhuley Ram/R/o Sector-14 Noida. If anyone has have any role, he/she may file his/her objection along with

NOTICE
client Pooja Chaudhary

They reaffirmed the need for all States to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. Meanwhile, Stephane Dujarric, Spokesman for Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, responding to a question on the situation between India and Pakistan at the daily press briefing Friday, said that “we continue to follow the situation with very deep concern”.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ London

There was a face-off between Indian diaspora groups who gathered to protest Pakistan-backed terrorism in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack and counter-protesters outside the Pakistan High Commission here, which saw scenes of a Pakistani diplomatic official making threatening gestures. In videos posted by Indian community groups from Friday evening's protest on social media, the Pakistani official can be seen taunting them from the balcony of the mission building at Lowndes Square. He was holding a poster with a sketch of Captain Abhinandan Varthaman and the words "Chai is Fantastic" — a reference to the IAF pilot's captivity in February 2019. The official, standing next to a large banner reading "Pakistan stands with Kashmiris", could be seen making a threatening throat-slitting gesture towards the Indian protesters across the building. There was a strong Metropolitan Police security detail in place, with several officers lined up between both groups of demonstrators to

“In a shocking and utterly deplorable display, a member of the Pakistani High Commission in the UK brandished photo of India’s Wing Commander Abhinandan and made a barbaric throat-slitting gesture during a protest over the Pahalgam attack - an act that reflects not only blatant hostility but also a dangerous disregard for diplomatic norms and human decency,” the spokesperson added. “Join us to stand for the unity and humanity and protest against terror attacks on innocents,” read the flyers outside the Pakistan High Commission in London.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Singapore

Authorities in Singapore, which goes to the polls next week, have directed Meta to disable user access to several Facebook posts intended to influence voters by foreigners — one a former Singaporean detainee-turned-Australian linked to the Islamic State and two Malaysian politicians.

The posts criticised, among others, the Singapore government's handling of sensitive religious issues and urged Singaporeans to vote along religious lines.

The city state goes to the polls on May 3. The Infocomm Media Development Authority, as the assistant returning officer, has issued corrective directions to Meta to disable Singaporean users' access to several posts published on Facebook, according to a joint statement on Friday from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the Elections Department Singapore (ELD).

The posts were by “Zai Nai”, identified as Islamic State-linked Zulfikar bin Mohamad Shariff, an Australian citizen who renounced his Singaporean citizenship in 2020 after having been detained for promoting terrorism in the city state, and leading Malaysian politician Iskandar Abdul Samad, national treasurer of the Parti Islam Se-Malaysia (PAS).

Zulfikar had been detained under the Internal Security Act of Singapore for his “promotion of terrorism” and glorification of the Islamic State online, according to the joint statement. The MHA-ELD added that his actions “contributed to the radicalisation of at least two other Singaporeans”.

In his post, Zulfikar accused several Malay-Muslim members of Parliament of failing to represent the interests of the Singaporean Muslim community and said the local Muslim community did not need another Malay MP who did not represent their views, the MHA-ELD said in the statement.

Zulfiakar's post was reposted by Mohamed Sukri Omar, the PAS youth chief in Selangor state in neighbouring Malaysia.

The posts, which can no longer be viewed by users in Singapore, expressed support for certain opposition candidates and criticised decisions made by the ruling government, according to a Channel News Asia report.

Stressing the importance of not mixing religion and politics, the MHA-ELD said it had identified a "number of foreigners" attempting to influence the elections. "We must not mix religion and politics. Singapore is a secular state," the MHA-ELD said.

The posts have been targeted at Singaporeans, according to the statement. “They interfere with our domestic politics, which are reserved for our citizens. They also urge Singaporeans to vote on racial and religious lines, and have led to more social media postings of a similar nature.”

All this has the potential to fracture the multi-racial and multi-religious harmony that is the bedrock of Singapore as a nation, according to the statement.

“We recognise that public policy may sometimes involve matters of religious concern,” the MHA-ELD noted but assured the government would continue to engage widely, including with religious groups, to hear their views and ensure they were taken into account.

All this has the potential to fracture the multi-racial and multi-religious harmony that is the bedrock of Singapore as a nation, according to the statement

The MHA-ELD also urged all political parties and their candidates, as well as religious organisations, leaders and members of the public to do “our part to safeguard the precious harmony we have in Singapore today”.

Foreigners must not direct, fund or in any way influence Singapore's elections. It is an offence under the Parliamentary Elections Act for foreigners to participate in elections actively or publish online election advertising

Under the Parliamentary Elections Act, online election advertising is defined as any material published online that can reasonably be regarded as intended to promote or prejudice the electoral success or standing of a political party or candidate.

Gurmit Singh, president of the Inter-Religious Organisation, said religion had to be kept out of politics "for the common good".

"In Singapore, we have witnessed the dangers of racial and religious conflicts in the past," Singh said in a statement posted on Facebook by the organisation's honorary secretary Lawrence Chong.

"This can come about when religion is mixed with politics, as witnessed in parts of the world," Channel News Asia quoted Singh as saying.

A total 27,58,846 (27.58 lakh) people are registered to vote in the May 3 elections. Among the voters, 75 per cent are of Chinese origin, 15 per cent Malays who mostly practise Islam, and more than seven per cent people of Indian origin.

It is hereby given that one Mrs. Kanchan Wani (hereinafter referred to as the said Saker/ Purchaser) have agreed to create a charge in respect of the Property more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written in favour of the client M/s Samman Capital Ltd. (Formerly known as Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd.). Branch- Chembur, Ghaziabad, U.P. The Seller Mrs. Mithlesh Chandra Agarwal for Self and G.P. of Mr. Mukesh Agarwal and Mr. Rohit Agarwal has lost/ misplaced the Original Sale Deed executed by M/s. Samman General Finance Co. Ltd. in favour of Mr. Kanchan Wani, registered on 17.06.1974 in

[illegible]

CHANGE OF NAME

Binay Kumar S/o Sri
Shrawan Dayal Prasad R/o GF-
2, Plot No. 469, Sector - 4,
Patna, Ghaziabad, UP
101010, have changed my
minor daughter's name from
Aakarshi Kanak Aakarshi to
Kanak Aakarshi DOB-
5/9/25. Hence, she would be
named Kanak Aakarshi for all
future purposes.

we continue to follow the situ-
very deep concern".

(CIN: U71290HR2019PLC077579)

Extract of Audited Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and year ended 31 March 2025					
Particulars	(Rs. in Crores)				
	Quarter ended 31-Mar-25	Quarter ended 31-Dec-24	Quarter ended 31-Mar-24	Year ended 31-Mar-25	Year ended 31-Mar-24
	Refer note-3	Unaudited	Refer note-3	Audited	Audited
Total Income from operations	15.53	13.72	14.67	58.67	58.76
Net (Loss)/Profit for the period (before Tax, minority interest and Share of Profit / (Loss) of associates, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(119.14)	(2.34)	(18.81)	(137.81)	(25.20)
Net (Loss)/Profit for the period (before Tax, minority interest and Share of Profit / (Loss) of associates (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items))	(119.14)	(2.34)	(18.81)	(137.81)	(25.20)
Net (Loss)/Profit for the period (after Tax, minority interest and Share of Profit / (Loss) of associates (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items))	(119.12)	(2.13)	(18.36)	(136.61)	(25.24)
Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(119.45)	(2.14)	(18.92)	(436.92)	(25.33)
Equity share capital	39.67	39.67	39.67	39.67	39.67
Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve) as shown in the audited Balance Sheet				(230.85)	206.07
Earnings per share (EPS) of Rs.2 each from continuing operations					
Basic (Amount in Rs.)	(6.02)	(0.10)	(0.95)	(6.93)	(1.37)
Diluted (Amount in Rs.)	(6.02)	(0.10)	(0.95)	(6.93)	(1.37)
Earnings per share (EPS) of Rs.2 each from discontinued operations					
Basic (Amount in Rs.)	0.01	(0.00)	0.02	0.04	0.10
Diluted (Amount in Rs.)	0.01	(0.00)	0.02	0.04	0.10

The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 26 April 2025.

Key standalone Financial information:

Particulars	Quarter ended 31-Mar-25	Quarter ended 31-Dec-24	Quarter ended 31-Mar-24	Year ended 31-Mar-25	Year ended 31-Mar-24
	Refer note-3	Unaudited	Refer note-3	Audited	Audited
Total Income	13.72	12.13	12.43	57.91	48.43
Loss)/Profit before Tax	(7.76)	(0.21)	(17.88)	(12.84)	(33.00)
Net Loss/Profit after Tax	(7.55)	(0.26)	(17.95)	(11.96)	(33.39)

Figures for the quarters ended 31 March 2025 and 31 March 2024 represent the balancing figures between the audited figures for the full financial year and published reviewed year to date figures upto third quarter of the respective financial year.

The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly / annual financial results filed with the stock exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / annual Financial Results are available on the Company's website (<https://www.indiabulensentprises.com>) and on the website of BSE (<https://www.bseindia.com>) and NSE (<https://www.nseindia.com>).

Registered Office: 5th Floor, Plot No. 108, IT Park,
Cyber Park Vihar, Phase-1 Gurugram, Haryana 122016

For and on behalf of Board of Directors

The same can be accessed by scanning the QR code provided below



Place : Gurugram
Date : 26 April 2025

Vijay Kumar Agarwal
Executive Director

IPL 2025: Mumbai Indians, LSG set for intense battle

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

A rampaging Mumbai Indians (MI) will look to maintain their winning run in a vital mid-table battle against a dangerous Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in an Indian Premier League clash here on Sunday.

Placed fourth and sixth respectively, MI and LSG both have an impressive 10 points in their kitty and are only separated by the net run rate, having won five matches each and lost four in nine games so far.

While these two teams will battle for on-field supremacy at the Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai's unrelenting heat and humidity will also play its part in testing the players' readiness to give it all in adverse conditions.

For the visitors, a negative NRR of -0.054 is something they would be keen to improve while hoping that their skipper Rishabh Pant is able to get a big score under his belt.

Pant has managed a lowly 106 runs in nine matches so far this season while shuffling across batting positions to discover what works for him, but none of his efforts seem to have worked for the India wicketkeeper-batter.

As Pant grapples with the burden of carrying the highest price tag, the pressure that comes along with it and the immense responsibility of leading a new IPL team,



his players have responded well so far.

The challenge, thus, will be greater and a different one for Pant's visiting side since the hosts Mumbai Indians are familiar with the conditions and have been on a roll, having notched up four wins on the trot to move in the top half of the points

table. Mumbai are peaking just at the right time and are firing on all cylinders. The form of mainstays such as Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Trent Boult and even Hardik Pandya would pose a lot of threat to MI's opponents going forward.

Rohit finished an ordinary run of

scores with two explosive half-centuries against Chennai Super Kings and Sunrisers Hyderabad, finding some consistency with the bat with a slight tweak in his all-out-attack approach.

Getting through the power play while putting away the bad deliveries — some-

thing that the India Test and ODI skipper was doing even when he was not getting big runs — have helped Rohit score 76 not out and 70 in his last two outings.

While there were no major concerns with Suryakumar, the familiar flourish for the ace T20 batter was missing at the start of the IPL but the right-handed batter too has been able to hit his strides like Tilak Varma.

Pandya has been an excellent floater for Mumbai Indians with precise and tight overs while he has been aggressive with the bat, proving to be a dependable option in both his roles.

Deepak Chahar and Trent Boult have found assistance under lights and with the evening sea breeze around in their home matches but the conditions will be a lot different for this game.

For LSG, overseas stars Nicholas Pooran (377 runs), Mitchell Marsh (344) and Aiden Markram (326) have formed the bedrock of their success more often than not and the trio's returns largely determine their fortunes on the field.

Marsh has thrived in his role as a specialist batter while Pooran has been a class apart, dazzling this IPL with strokes full of Caribbean flavour. Markram has been a dependable silent operator in the side who has performed his role really well.

Lucknow Super Giants' bowling line-up is not an intimidating one on paper but is smart enough to work their way around

conditions and pitches.

The presence of local man Shardul Thakur, a late signing for LSG who has taken most wickets (12) so far, would be vital in understanding the wicket and forming the plans as they go.

Ravi Bishnoi has not had many wickets but it is Digvesh Rathi who has made a strong mark this IPL, and will once again want to snaffle a few wickets in that MI line-up.

Teams

Mumbai Indians: Hardik Pandya (c), Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Robin Minz (wk), Ryan Rickelton (wk), Shrijith Krishnan (wk), Bevon Jacobs, Tilak Varma, Naman Dhir, Will Jacks, Mitchell Santner, Raj Angad Bawa, Vignesh Puthur, Corbin Bosch, Trent Boult, Karn Sharma, Deepak Chahar, Ashwani Kumar, Reece Topley, VS Penmetsa, Arjun Tendulkar, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Jasprit Bumrah.

Lucknow Super Giants: Rishabh Pant (C and wk), David Miller, Aiden Markram, Aryan Juyal, Himmat Singh, Matthew Breetzke, Nicholas Pooran (wk), Mitchell Marsh, Abdul Samad, Shahbaz Ahmad, Yuvraj Chaudhary, Rajvardhan Hangargekar, Arshin Kulkarni, Ayush Badoni, Shardul Thakur, Avesh Khan, Akash Deep, Manimaran Siddharth, Digvesh Singh, Akash Singh, Shamar Joseph, Prince Yadav, Mayank Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru clash against Delhi Capitals

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Virat Kohli and KL Rahul will headline the battle of anchors while Mitchell Starc versus Josh Hazlewood in the pace department can only add more spice to the contest between the in-form Delhi Capitals (DC) and Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the IPL here on Sunday. Things can change rather quickly in the IPL but on current form, both DC and RCB are expected to make the play-offs. Two points at the Feroz Shah Kotla will significantly help the winning team in that context.

Kohli remains the biggest draw as he returns to his 'home ground' at the back of five half-centuries in nine games. Four of them have come away from the Chinnaswamy Stadium and despite being in the opposition camp, the Delhi crowd will be hoping the Indian superstar extends his prolific run in the tournament.

Slower surfaces this season has made stroke-making tougher but RCB's leading run-getter Kohli has thrived on that challenge to flourish for his team. Another batter who has done remarkably well under the circumstances is Rahul, who has

scored the most runs for Delhi Capitals.

Not part of India's T20 set-up, Rahul has forced the selectors to take notice with his stellar performances in the middle order and behind the stumps.

Starc versus Hazlewood

The two champion Australian fast bowlers, Hazlewood and Starc, have already showed the immense value they bring to their respective IPL teams. Hazlewood is among the leading wicket takers in the tournament with 16 scalps and effectively won the game for RCB in their previous outing against Rajasthan Royals with an exemplary 19th over.

His compatriot Starc is not far behind on the impact table and coincidentally it was also against Royals that he came up with a barrage of wide yorkers to seal the game for DC. Their duel will be exciting to say the least.

Kuldeep versus Suyash, Axar versus Krunal

Kuldeep Yadav has foxed the batters in the middle overs throughout the Indian Premier League with his googly causing maximum damage to the opposition.

Besides 12 wickets in eight games, the left-arm wrist spinner has conceded runs at a frugal rate of 6.50 runs per over.

Both Delhi Capitals and Royal Challengers Bengaluru are expected to make the play-offs. Two points at the Feroz Shah Kotla will significantly help the winning team in that context

His presence will pose the biggest challenge to the in-form RCB batters on Sunday night. Delhi boy Suyash Sharma has also given a good account of himself in RCB jersey and will be using all his local knowledge to out-think the DC batters.

While DC captain Axar Patel has led from the front, he has not bowled a lot in the competition due to a niggly but has completed his full quota of overs in the last game, marking another positive for a team on the charge.

Krunal will be performing a similar role for the RCB camp. With 12 wickets in nine games, the left-arm spinner has done the job for his new franchise.

DC have been playing only three foreign players since dropping Jake-Fraser McGurk and that is likely to continue with Abhishek Porel and Karun Nair at the top of the order.

Teams

Delhi Capitals: Karun Nair, Harry Brook, Jake Fraser-McGurk, Faf du Plessis, Tristan Stubbs, Abhishek Porel, Donovan Ferreira, KL Rahul, Axar Patel (captain), Sameer Rizvi, Ashutosh Sharma, Darshan Nalkande, Ajay Jadav Mandal, Vipraj Nigam, Manvanth Kumar L, Tripurana Vijay, Madhav Tiwari, Kuldeep Yadav, Dushmantha Chameera, Mitchell Starc, Mohit Sharma, T Natarajan, Mukesh Kumar.

RCB: Virat Kohli, Rajat Patidar (captain), Swastik Chikara, Devdutt Padikkal, Jitesh Sharma, Philip Salt, Manoj Bhandage, Tim David, Krunal Pandya, Liam Livingstone, Romario Shepherd, Jacob Bethell, Swapnil Singh, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Josh Hazlewood, Nuwan Thushara, Lungi Ngidi, Yash Dayal, Rasikh Dar Salam, Suyash Sharma, Mohit Rathee, Abhinandan Singh.

Rinku feels any IPL team can breach magical 300-run barrier

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Kolkata

Kolkata Knight Riders' swashbuckling batter Rinku Singh feels the Indian Premier League has now reached a stage where a team breaching the magical 300-run barrier in an innings won't be a surprise.

The countdown to IPL 2025 was dominated by chatter around the real possibility of teams going past 300 in an innings in this edition of the league thanks to the franchise's relentless focus on sustained power hitting.

During a chat with JioHotstar, Rinku backed the possibility of a team breaching the 300-run mark, citing past successful chases as proof of how the game has evolved.

"Yes, we can do it. IPL has reached a stage where even 300 is possible; last year, Punjab chased a total of 262 runs. All teams are strong this season - anyone can get to 300," the big-hitting Rinku said.

After scaling 250 thrice during their runners-up finish last year, Sunrisers Hyderabad came close to reaching 300 in their opening game this season.

However, they eventually ended at 286/7 against Rajasthan Royals, which was a run short of their own previous best of 287/3 against RCB last year, which is also IPL's record total.

Rinku also reflected on his role as a finisher, sharing insights on fitness and composure.

"I usually bat at No. 5 or 6 — I've done that for UP and in the IPL, so I'm used to it. I focus a lot on fitness because with 14 matches in the IPL, it's my responsibility to maintain my body and recover well. "I also speak to Mahi Bhai often — he tells me to stay calm and play according to the match situation. Things fall into place when you stay composed."

Stephen Fleming admits CSK might have got it wrong at auction table

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Chennai

Half the IPL battle is normally won at auction table but in case of Chennai Super Kings, the seeds of their struggles this season were sown on that very evening in Jeddah many months ago, when they failed to get the best assortment of players.

Long-time head coach Stephen Fleming admitted that it has led to an unmitigated disaster in the ongoing edition of the league.

The CSK's template of going for the tried and tested players have backfired with the team languishing at the bottom of the points table having lost seven out of nine games.

"It is hard to say. We got it completely right with the performances that we've had. So we have been looking over that in detail, just around our style of play. Also looking at how the game is evolving, and it's not easy.

"And that's why we are proud of our record today, that we have been able to be consistent for so long. And it doesn't take much for it to go another way," Fleming said after losing to Sunrisers Hyderabad here on Friday, initially trying hard to defend the team.

But then there was acceptance that they might have missed a trick or two. "Other teams have got better, and that is the point of the auction. But we just have not been able to get it right. So you take responsibility from the top down, and you just ask a little bit more of the players.

"But yeah, that has to be an area where we need to reflect and say it wasn't as good as what it could have been, or it hasn't worked out how we wanted. "But it is also not a perfect science. The auction is a very fluid beast. It is like buying 25 houses, so you come away at the end of it mentally and sometimes physically exhausted. And

to be fair, I still think we have got a good squad. We're not far away," he said, putting up a brave front.

Players like Rahul Tripathi, Deepak Hooda, Vijay Shankar have been super flops and CSK's reluctance to try out new talents at the start of the tournament cost them dear.

Corrigendum

In The Pioneer, Bhopal Edition, dated 26 April 2025, on Page No 10, an advertisement issued regarding Case no. RC/165/2022 in O.A. No. 678/2021 Central Bank of India Vs M/s Balaji Infratech by the Debts Recovery Tribunal under E-Auction Notice No 109/2025 inadvertently mentioned the figure 'at 8.30%' instead of 'at 12.00%' p.a. with simple interest. The correct figure should be read as '12.00 %'. The error is regretted.

Change of Name

My old name's spelling was TARUNENDRA KUMAR TIWARI. Written in my old Passport. I have changed my name's spelling. My new & correct name is now known as TARUENDRA KUMAR TIWARI S/O GOPINATH TIWARI. Address Plot no. C-06, Ward no. 01, Mandideep Goharganj Dist. Raissen (M.P.) 462046

Change of Name

I SKARIAH SKARIAH S/O THYKOOTATHIL CHANDY SKARIAH. Address- 58, Durgesh Vihar, J.K. Road Bhopal (M.P.) declares that in my present documents. My name written as SKARIAH SKARIAH. I have changed my name. My new & Correct name is now known as VELOUR SKARIAH SKARIAH. Now in all my documents. I will be known as VELOUR SKARIAH SKARIAH in future.

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda

E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE
Branch: Jayendra Nagar, Nisha Plaza,
Jinsi Road, Near Aachran Press, Gwalior-474001 (M.P.)
Ph. 72477-16428, Email : vjgwal@bankofbaroda.com

"APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower /s/Guarantor/s/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/E-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.

Name & Address of Borrowers / Guarantors/ Mortgagee	Description of the Immovable property with known encumbrances, if any	Reserve Price EMD Bid Increase Amount	Date & Time of E-Auction	Demand Notice Date Possession Date Outstanding Amount
Borrower: Mrs. Chaya Sharma W/o Deepak Sharma 2. Mr. Deepak Sharma S/o Nathonam Sharma Address : Flat No.103, First Floor, Triveni Tower, Tope wala Mohalla, Jiwajigani, Lashkar, Gwalior-474001	Property Owner-Mrs Chaya Sharma W/o Mr. Deepak Sharma and Mr. Deepak Sharma S/o Mr Nathonam Sharma - Land and Building constructed at House No. 41/882/1022 & 41/1023/1, Ward No. 41, Flat No. 103, First Floor Triveni Tower, Tope wala Mohalla, Jiwajigani, Lashkar, Gwalior (M.P.) Admeasuring 69.70 Sqmt (750 Sq.ft.) Boundaries: East: Stair Passage then Flat No. 104, West: Other Property, North: Below Road Common, South: Flat No. 102.	Rs. 9,00,000/- Rs. 90,000/- Rs. 10000/-	30.05.2025 Time : 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM	05.10.2024 14.02.2025 Rs. 8,77,511.22/- + Interest & charges SYMBOLIC POSSESSION
Borrower : Mr. Vikas Goswami S/o Mr. Suresh Chand Goswami Add: Flat No. G-03 Ground Floor Triveni Tower Tope Wala Mohalla Jiwajigani Lashkar Gwalior Guarantor : Mr. Sandeep Sharma S/o Mr. Narendra Sharma 1. Choudhary Mohalla, Hira Sadan , Kachhaua , Village – Aantri District Gwalior, MP -475001 2. Flat No. G-02 Ground Floor Ward No. 41, Triveni Tower , Tope Wala Mohalla, Jiwajigani, Lashkar, Gwalior	Property Owner- Mr Vikas Goswami S/o Mr Suresh Chand Goswami - Flat No G-3 Part of House No. 41/882/1022 & 41/1023/1 Ground Floor Ward No. 41, Triveni Tower Tope Wala Mohalla Jiwajigani Lashkar Gwalior admeasuring 60.40 Sq. Mtr. Boundaries: North: Common Gali, South: Flat No G-2, East: Property Other & Common Passage, West: Other Property	Rs. 9,00,000/- Rs. 90,000/- Rs. 10000/-	30.05.2025 Time : 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM	01.04.2019 12.06.2019 Rs. 10,92,929.75/- + Interest & charges SYMBOLIC POSSESSION
Borrower: 1. Mrs. Komal Bukoliya W/o Mr. Sonu Sharma Add: 42, Mewa Wali Gali, Kilkari Hospital Ke Pass, Danaoli, Lashkar, Gwalior 2.Mrs. Nisha Bukoliya W/o Mr. Manoj Bukoliya Add: 42, Mewa Wali Gali, Kilkari Hospital Ke Pass, Danaoli, Lashkar, Gwalior	Property Owner- Mrs. Komal Bukoliya W/o Mr. Sonu Sharma and Smt. Nisha Bukoliya W/o Manoj Bukoliya - Flat No. G-01, Ground Floor, Old Municipal House No. 41/882/1022 And 41/1023/1, Ward No. 41, Triveni Tower, Tope Wala Mohalla, Jiwajigani, Lashkar, Gwalior. Area 74.34 Sqmt.	Rs. 8,10,000/- Rs. 81,000/- Rs. 10000/-	22.05.2025 Time : 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM	01.12.2018 06.02.2019 Rs. 19,63,476.99/- + Interest & charges PHYSICAL POSSESSION
Borrower: Mr. Jitendra Gurjar S/O Bhikam Singh Gurjar Add: H.No. 2, Madha Valo Ka Mohalla, Village-girgaon, Tehsil-morar, Gwalior Guarantor : Mr. Sandeep Sharma S/o Narendra Sharma Add: Choudhary Mohalla, Heera Sadan, Gram Aantri, Paragana & Distt-Gwalior	Property Owner-Mr.Jitendra Gurjar S/O Bhikam Singh Gurjar - Flat No. 202, Second Floor, Triveni Tower, Old Municipal House no 41/882/1022 and 41/1023/1, Ward No. 41, Jiwajigani, Lashkar, Gwalior, Area-650.0 Sq.ft (60.40 sq mt.). Boundaries: East : Flat No. 204 & Common Passage, Jeena, West : House of Ghansu, North: Flat No. 201, South: Flat No. 203	Rs. 7,20,000/- Rs. 72,000/- Rs. 10000/-	22.05.2025 Time : 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM	01.04.2019 12.06.2019 Rs. 14,61,938.00/- + Interest & charges PHYSICAL POSSESSION
Borrower: 1. Mr. Sandeep Sharma S/o Narendra Sharma Add: Choudhary Mohalla, Heera Sadan, Gram Aantri, Paragana & Distt, Gwalior 2. Mr. Deepak Sharma S/o Mr. Nathonam Sharma Add: Flat No. 103, First Floor, Triveni Tower, Tope Wala Mohalla, Jiwajigani, Lashkar, Gwalior, Paragana & Distt, Gwalior	Property Owner- Mr. Sandeep Sharma S/o Narendra Sharma -Flat No. G-02, Ground Floor, Triveni Tower, Old Municipal House No. 41/882/1022 and 41/1023/1, Ward no 41, Jiwajigani, Lashkar, Gwalior Area-650.0 Sq.ft (60.40 sqmt.). Boundaries: East: Common Passage and Parking, Jeena, West: Property other, North: Flat No. G-03, South: Flat No. G-01	Rs. 7,20,000/- Rs. 72,000/- Rs. 10000/-	22.05.2025 Time : 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM	01.04.2019 12.06.2019 Rs. 13,41,131.57/- + Interest & charges PHYSICAL POSSESSION
Borrower: 1. Mr. Pradeep Sharma S/o Nathuram Sharma Add: Kripal Ashram Ke Pass, Chandra Nagar, Koteswar Mandir, Gwalior 2. Mrs. Sandhya Sharma W/o Pradeep Sharma Add: Kripal Ashram Ke Pass, Chandra Nagar, Koteswar Mandir, Gwalior	Property Owner- Mr. Pradeep Sharma - Part of Survey No. 128/3. Min-1,130,135, Ward No. 18, Municipal No. 162/2 Adarsh Nagar, Village-Jaderua Kalan, Gwalior, Area-720 Sq.ft (66.91 Sqmt.). Boundaries: East: House of Ram Prakash, West : Road, North: Land of Savitri Devi, South : House of Virendra	Rs. 9,00,000/- Rs. 90,000/- Rs. 10000/-	22.05.2025 Time : 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM	01.04.2019 17.07.2019 Rs. 15,77,938.94/- + Interest & charges PHYSICAL POSSESSION

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> or <https://baanknet.com> prospective bidders may contact the authorized officer on Mobile- 78801-53122

Place: Gwalior **Date: 25/04/2025** **Authorised officer, Bank of Baroda**

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate Office: 167-169, 2nd floor, Near Little Mount Metro Station, Saipei, Chennai - 600015
Regional Office - 101-B, 1st Floor, NRK Business Park, Vijaynagar, Indore(MP) - 452010 Email - auction@hindujahousingfinance.com

Appendix IV : Possession NOTICE (for Immovable Property)
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of power conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Demand Notice (s) issued by Authorized Officer of the Company to the Borrower(S) / Guarantor(S) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice here by given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the change of HHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Name of Borrower/ Guarantor / Co-Borrower	1. Demand Notice Issued Date 2. Loan Account No, 3. Amount Due as on Notice Date	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Date & Type of Possession
Mr. NANURAM JATAV Mrs. CHETNA BAI JATAV	1. Issuance Date - 08-04-2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A000000393 & CO/CP/CPDF/A000002363 3. Rs. 6,95,542/- (Rupees Six Lacs Ninety Five Thousand Five Hundred Forty Two Only)	A Land On Part of Land Survey, Survey No.969 Min-1/Min1/Min-1, Situated At Ward No.05, Inside Station Road, Main Road, Village Maksi, Tehsil And District Shajapur , Madhya Pradesh , India - 465106 Total Area - 600 Sq. Ft. Boundaries - East - Land Of Radheshyam, West - 15 Ft. Wide Passage, North - Land Of Radheshyam, South - Land Of Radheshyam	22/04/2025
Mr. GORDHAN S/o SHANKARLA Mrs. JASHODA BAI	1. Issuance Date - 26-03-2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A000000920 3. Rs. 4,55,319/- (Rupees Four Lacs Fifty Five Thousand Three Nineteen Only)	A House No. 231/1, Situated At Kharsod Khurd, PH.No.76, Tehsil Badnagar, Rural, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, India - 456222 Total Area - 71.0708 Sq. Mtr. Boundaries - East - House Of Jagannath, West - Common Passage, North - House Of Poonam Chand, South - House Of Bhuvan Singh	21/04/2025
M r . B A B U L A S O / DHANNAJI Mrs. BALI BAI	1. Issuance Date:- 07/03/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A000001238 3. Rs. 3,64,678/- (Rupees Three Lakh Sixty Four Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Eight Only)	A House No 07 Situated At Village Moyakheda Gram Panchayat Sarali P.H.N. 47, Tehsil Makdon /tarana Dist.ujjain , Near By Devnarayan Mandir, Madhya Pradesh , India -456668 Total Area - 1350 SQ.FT. Bounded By: East- Place Of Bhagwan Singh,west- Darbar Singh & Narayan Field, North- House Of Meharwaan Singh & Common Passage, South: House Of Bhagwan Singh & Vacant Land	22/04/2025

Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) are hereby put to caution that the property may be sold at any time herein after by way of public auction/tenders and as such this may also be treated as a notice under Rule 6, 8 & 9 of Security (Interest) Enforcement Rules, 2002. Authorised Officer Mobile No. - **Valbhav Shrivastav - 7987969803, Rajesh Chakotiya - 84355 71111, Shivam Sharma - 75099 99827, Satish Thapa - 90985 23310**
Date: 27.04.2025

Authorised Officer, Hinduja Housing Finance Limited



नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री



देश का टेक्नोलॉजी हब बनने की ओर अग्रसर मध्यप्रदेश



डॉ. मोहन यादव, मुख्यमंत्री

मध्यप्रदेश टेक ग्रोथ कॉन्क्लेव 2025

ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टर्स समिट 2025 के संकल्पों को साकार करता मध्यप्रदेश

शुभारंभ

डॉ. मोहन यादव

मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश द्वारा

27 अप्रैल 2025 | सायं 5:00 बजे

ब्रिलियंट कन्वेंशन सेंटर, इंदौर

अवसरों का प्रदेश मध्यप्रदेश...

इन्वेस्टर फ्रेंडली नीतियां

- ग्लोबल कैपेबिलिटी सेंटर्स पॉलिसी 2025
- ड्रोन प्रमोशन एवं यूसेज पॉलिसी 2025
- आईटी, आईटीईएस एवं ईएसडीएम इन्वेस्टमेंट प्रमोशन पॉलिसी 2023
- एवीजीसी-एक्सआर पॉलिसी 2025
- सेमीकंडक्टर पॉलिसी 2025

टेक ईकोसिस्टम

15+ आईटी पार्क	5 आईटी सेज़	2000+ आईटी, आईटीईएस यूनिट	50+ बड़ी आईटी कंपनियां
1200+ टेक स्टार्ट-अप्स	200K+ रोज़गार के अवसर	2 टेक यूनिर्कॉन	

फोकस क्षेत्र



आईटी-आईटीईएस



एवीजीसी-एक्सआर



ड्रोन प्रौद्योगिकी



ईएसडीएम और सेमीकंडक्टर



डाटा सेंटर



ग्लोबल कैपेबिलिटी सेंटर्स





ADVENTURE

“A person susceptible to ‘wanderlust’ is not so much addicted to movement as committed to transformation”
— Pico Iyer



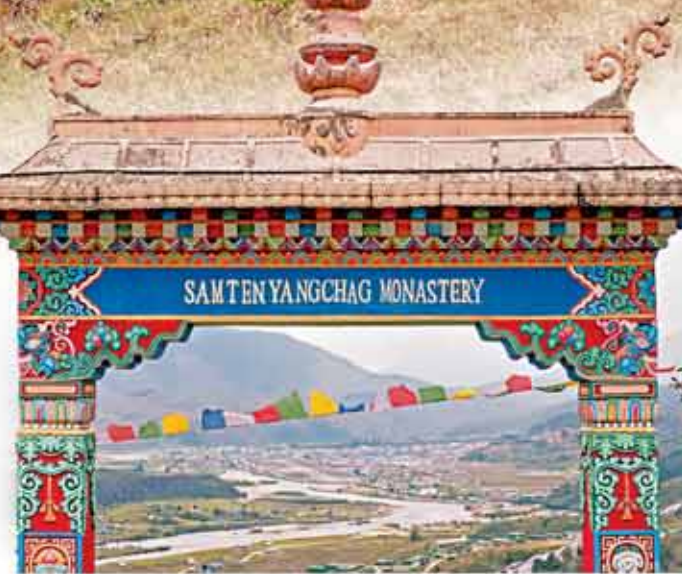
The Mechukha Adventure Race in Arunachal Pradesh blended high-octane action with national pride, showcasing the region’s beauty, writes GYANESHWAR DAYAL

The greatest challenge one can face often lies within — confronting and transcending personal limitations. Pushing these boundaries becomes one of the most rewarding experiences life can offer. This notion came to life both figuratively and literally when 22 teams converged in Mechukha for the 3rd National Adventure Racing Championship, a prestigious event under the Adventure Racing World Series — Asia Series.

In a spectacular blend of adrenaline and assertion, Arunachal Pradesh played host to a high — octane adventure race set against the breathtaking backdrop of Mechukha, located in the Shi Yomi district. Spearheaded by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, which aims to place Mechukha firmly on the global adventure sports map, the choice of location was as strategic as it was scenic.

Nestled near the Chinese border on the far eastern edge of India, Mechukha stands not only as a gateway to natural beauty but also as a testament to national pride and resilience. Pasang Dorjee Sona, the Sports Minister of Arunachal Pradesh and the visionary behind the event’s conception, expressed his intent with candor and conviction: “This is our way of telling the world — we are here, waiting to be explored. What you’ll find here is an India unlike any other. The race is merely a means to draw global attention and unveil this hidden paradise.”

His words carry weight, for Mechukha offers boundless opportunities for adventure tourism — from soaring down one of India’s longest zip lines and paragliding over pristine valleys, to braving wild rivers through rafting and kayaking, scaling rugged mountain faces, and trekking through untouched landscapes. Set against the backdrop of the Eastern Himalayas, the race included mountain biking, trail running, river rafting, and rappelling — challenging participants across some of the most



rugged and breathtaking terrain in the region. Mechukha, located near the Indo — Tibet border, offered a dramatic and fitting venue, with its raw beauty and strategic significance. The race covered a route that took participants through dense forests, across suspension bridges, over swift rivers, and into remote tribal hamlets, giving them a taste of the unique culture and unspoiled environment that defines Arunachal Pradesh.

Promoting Adventure Tourism

Organised by the state’s Department of Tourism in collaboration with Nth adventure the race was a strategic move to boost adventure tourism in the region. Arunachal Pradesh, often referred to as the “Land of the Rising Sun,” boasts immense untapped potential for eco and adventure tourism. Pema Khandu, the dynamic Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, is deeply committed to positioning Mechukha and the state as a whole, as a vibrant tourism hub.

“As a border state, we face certain constraints,” he noted, “but significant efforts are underway to enhance infrastructure — from roads to telecommunications — which will give a major boost to the tourism industry. Arunachal Pradesh is a peaceful state with 85 percent forest cover, offering visitors a rejuvenating experience amidst nature.”

Speaking at the event, Arunachal Pradesh’s Tourism Minister emphasised, “This is our home, and we are proud to showcase its beauty and resilience. Adventure tourism is our bridge to the world, and Mechukha is just the beginning.” “It’s not just about the race. It’s about experiencing India’s frontier, the people, the spirit, the message,” said a participant from Mumbai.



EXPLORING THE LAST SHANGRI-LA

Nestled in the eastern Himalayas, Mechukha is a pristine valley in the Shi-Yomi district of Arunachal Pradesh, India. Often described as the “Last Shangri-La,” this enchanting destination remains largely untouched by commercial tourism, offering an unspoiled glimpse into nature, culture, and thrilling adventures.

A TAPESTRY OF NATURAL BEAUTY

Mechukha is a dreamscape of lush meadows, dense pine forests, winding rivers, and majestic mountains. In spring and summer, the valley is blanketed with wildflowers, while autumn offers crisp air and golden hues. Winters, though chilly, transform Mechukha into a white wonderland, with snow-draped landscapes that look like they’re lifted straight from a postcard.

ADVENTURE AWAITS

While tranquility is one of Maichuka’s charms, the region also promises adrenaline, pumping adventure for thrill seekers.

TREKKING AND HIKING

Mechukha is surrounded by several unexplored trails that cut through dense forests and mountain passes. The Samten Yongcha trek is a favourite among locals, offering panoramic views of the valley. Hikes to nearby ridges reveal sweeping vistas of snow capped peaks and endless forests.

RIVER RAFTING

The Siyom River, though calm in places, also has rapids suitable for white — water rafting, especially during the summer. For the more laid, back adventurer, angling for local fish species in the river is a peaceful pastime.

PARAGLIDING

Mechukha has also become known as a paragliding hotspot, especially during the annual Adventure Festival organised by the Arunachal Pradesh tourism department. Soaring over pine forests and rivers offers a bird’s eye view of the valley’s breathtaking landscape.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

With its rugged terrain and offbeat tracks, Maichuka is perfect for mountain biking. Whether you’re coasting downhill or navigating rocky trails, the combination of fresh air and scenic backdrops makes every ride memorable.

A SUBTLE YET STRONG MESSAGE TO CHINA

China has consistently refused to recognise Arunachal Pradesh as part of India, referring to it as “South Tibet” in its official maps. The Indian government has repeatedly reaffirmed that Arunachal Pradesh is and will always be an integral part of India. By organising a high-profile adventure event in a border village, India sent a quiet but firm message: governance, development, and public participation in the region are thriving. The presence of Indian security forces, civil authorities, and a large number of Indian participants underlined the reality on the ground.

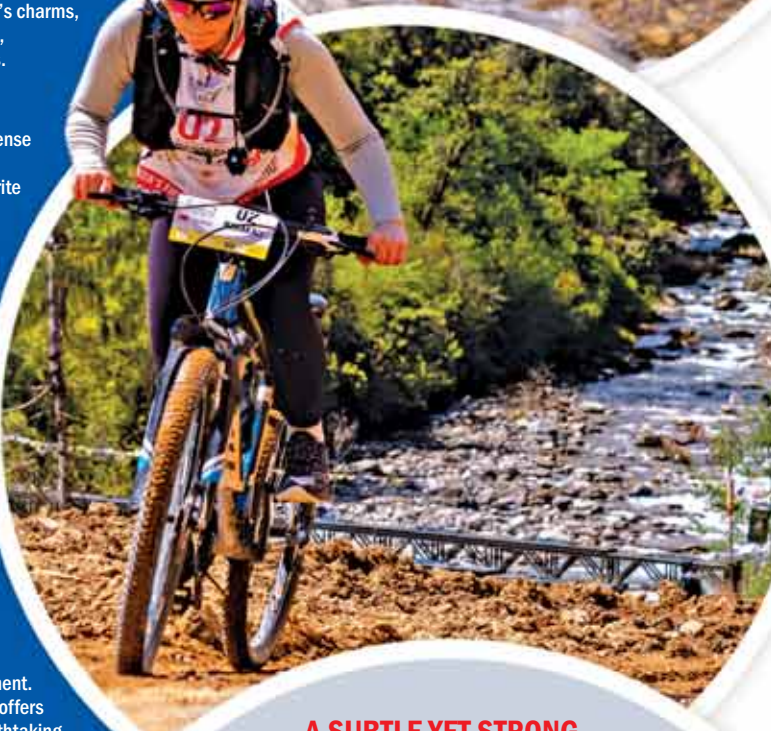
ADVENTURE MECHUKHA: LET THE ADRENAL RACE

India’s 3rd National Adventure Racing Championship came to Arunachal Pradesh for the first time. As part of the prestigious ARWS Asia series, the championship offered an experience that combined intense competition, breathtaking landscapes, and rich cultural immersion. Held in the remote and pristine Mechukha Valley, the event lived up to its promise of providing a race like no other. Nestled high in the Himalayas, 6,000 feet above sea level, Mechukha

welcomed competitors with its untouched beauty. The participants not only faced some of the toughest terrains in the country but also had the chance to immerse themselves in the culture and traditions of the region, discovering the warmth and hospitality of the local tribes, including the Membas, Ramos, Bokars, Libos, and Tagin.

The 3rd National Adventure Racing Championship also served as a qualifier for the ARWS Asia Championship 2025, adding an extra layer

of intensity to the competition. With national and international teams coming together to compete, the event attracted some of the best in the field. In addition to the race, the championship offered a generous cash prize pool of Rs 7 lakh, 5 lakh and 3 lakhs. But beyond the competition, the event allowed participants to fully immerse themselves in Mechukha’s rich culture. It was an experience that went far beyond the race itself, offering a deep connection to the land.



“LIFE IS UNCERTAIN.
EAT DESSERT FIRST”
— ERNESTINE ULMER



BHURI BHOJ Comes Alive In Delhi

Bringing the stories and spices of Bengal to life, Chef Ananya Banerjee curates an unforgettable menu for the Delhiites, for ten days, that celebrates the region’s rich love for the food culture, writes ABHI SINGHAL



Chef Ananya Banerjee — The mind and magic behind the creativity and fusion of the Bengali food.



The Bengali culture always makes you feel so alive and the Bengali feast is to die for in the case pf food lovers. So, for ten special days, the essence of Bengal will be live at the *The Suryaa, New Delhi* with “Taste of Bengal”, that is a grand celebration of food, flavour and nostalgia. The heart behind the entire finger licking food is *Chef Ananya Banerjee*, whose love for Bengal’s food traditions shines through every plate.

The buffet spread showcases an impressive lineup of Bengali classics. Start with *Bhetki Paturi*, where mustard-marinated fish is gently wrapped in banana leaves and pan-fried to perfection. For the savours of the non vegetarian you can try the ever-popular *Keema Egg Devil*, a favourite from Kolkata’s street food scene that wraps

THE SWEETEST GRAND FINALE

The dessert spread is a poetic end to the Bengali feast. You will get to relish the *Makha Shondesh* served in a crisp kunafa basket — soft, kneaded, and delicately sweet. Then, surrender to the charm of *Kheer Komala*, a silky milk pudding laced with fresh oranges and citrus zest. A gentle, flavourful finale that lingers on the palate long after the last bite.

spiced minced meat around a boiled egg, fried until golden and crisp. In the starters you also have *Ghugni tart* — a contemporary take on Kolkata’s classic yellow pea curry, served in a delicate tart shell, *Beetroot Croquette cylinder* — a crisp, deep-fried beetroot and potato croquette with subtle spice, served with delicate garnish. These will not let you keep up the space for the upcoming main course. The main courses feature the much-loved *Kosha Mangsho*, a slow-cooked mutton dish rich with

spices. Pair it with puffed *Luchi* or the fragrant yellow *Basanti Pulao* for a truly satisfying plate. And for those with a sweet tooth, the *Baked Rasogolla* is a must — a gentle twist on Bengal’s iconic sweet that’s both comforting and indulgent. The *Vegetarian Thali* had the *Lebu pata bhaat* — fragrant gobindobogh rice infused with citrusy gondhoraj leaves for refreshing aroma, *Bengali Aloo Dum* — baby potatoes slow-cooked in lightly spiced tomato cumin. The taste of *Chholar Dal* with Narkel & Kishmish made with thick Bengal gram dal cooked with coconut slivers and sweet raisin will become your favourite eventually. The desert is the last and the best. You will have the sweetness of *Makha Shondesh* in kunafa basket — Soft, Kneaded Bengali sandesh delicately in a crisp kunafa nest. *The Kheer Komala* — A velvety milk pudding infused with fresh oranges

and citrus zest will make your taste buds feel weak on food. But this festival is about more than just what is on the plate. *The Suryaa* has turned its dining space into a little slice of Bengal with Live kitchen counters let diners watch dishes come to life, while traditional music adds a soothing background, completing an atmosphere that feels like stepping into a Bengali home.

FACT SHEET -
Taste of Bengal
Where: The Suryaa, New Delhi
When: 25th April - 4th May 2025
Timings: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Price: Dinner Buffet at INR 2399++



From street snacks to heirloom recipes, “Taste of Bengal” brings Kolkata’s kitchen to Delhi under the culinary guidance of Chef Ananya. It promises a meal to remember and is an invitation to connect with a part of India that is rich in warmth, tradition, and taste. So, prepare for a nostalgic food journey as The Suryaa.



PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR

Passport to World’s Street Food



From Tokyo to Mexico, it’s a flavourful food world tour at Cafe Delhi Heights, writes ABHI SINGHAL

Street food is an extra happy taste buds experience, a cultural adventure that brings together the flavours and traditions of distant lands. Imagine embarking on a food journey around the globe, all without leaving your seat. With the *International Street Food Festival 2025 at Cafe Delhi Heights*, you can do just that, as this exciting celebration of global cuisine unfolds across all their outlets from April 15 to May 1.

Step into the warm and aesthetic atmosphere of Cafe Delhi Heights, where the scents of sizzling spices, grilling meats, and fresh ingredients fill the

air, setting the stage for a food adventure. The festival’s specially formed menu promises to take you on a whirlwind tour across continents, offering a unique twist on iconic street food dishes from around the world. You can start your journey in Asia with a steaming bowl of Japanese ramen, its rich, savoury broth paired perfectly with tender noodles and a medley of fresh toppings. If you’re craving something with a bit of heat, the spicy, tangy kick of Mexican tacos will leave your taste buds dancing. For a touch of Middle Eastern warmth, savour the juicy, flavourful shawarmas, packed with a delicious mix of meats and spices that transport you straight to the bustling streets of Beirut or Cairo.

But the adventure doesn’t stop there. Want to travel more? Now, CDH takes you to Spain with a bite of the crispy, sugar-dusted churros, or you can sink teeth into a tender Turkish kebab that captures the essence of Turkey’s street food culture. For those who prefer something lighter, the Vietnamese spring rolls offer a refreshing crunch with a burst

of herbs and dipping sauce that’s simply irresistible. And for the perfect comfort food, there are American sliders, mini burgers packed with bold flavours that are both familiar and exciting.

The festival adds an interactive twist to the experience with the *Dart World Board* — a fun, paid activity where you throw a dart at a world map that highlights the countries featured in the festival menu. Wherever the dart lands, that’s the street food dish you must try. It’s an adventurous way to discover new flavours, bringing an element of surprise to your dining experience.

Taste the global street food and something new with the *International Street Food Festival at Cafe Delhi Heights*. Hours of spending time and savouring food will take you through culture, flavour, and the joy of sharing a meal.

FACT SHEET
Location - All Outlets
Café Delhi Heights
Availability - 15th April- 1st May



A Night of Artful Mixology

Bangkok’s Rabbit Hole Brings Cocktail Magic to Gurugram at The Leela Ambience, writes GYANESHWAR DAYAL



The art of mixology extends far beyond simply combining drinks — it’s a creative craft that merges flavour, balance, technique, and storytelling. A superb cocktail is a sensory journey, where each ingredient is selected with intention and precision to evoke a mood, a memory, or an emotion. From the clink of ice to the swirl of citrus oils, mixology is where culinary science meets artistic expression, turning a simple sip into a memorable experience. In a dazzling display of global mixology, The *Leela Ambience Gurugram Hotel & Residences* hosted one of Asia’s most iconic cocktail destinations for an unforgettable evening. On 23rd April, the celebrated *Rubicon Bar & Cigar Lounge* opened its doors to a special bar takeover by *Rabbit Hole* — Bangkok’s legendary speakeasy known for its inventive cocktails and chic, understated charm.

Tucked away behind a nondescript wooden door in Thonglor’s vibrant nightlife district, Rabbit Hole has earned a reputation for pushing the boundaries of mixology while maintaining a relaxed elegance. For one night only, this distinctive Bangkok spirit was brought to Gurugram, infusing the capital region’s cocktail culture with an international flair.

At the heart of the takeover were Rabbit Hole’s star talents — Depp, the Group Beverage Manager, and Bite, a master mixologist known for

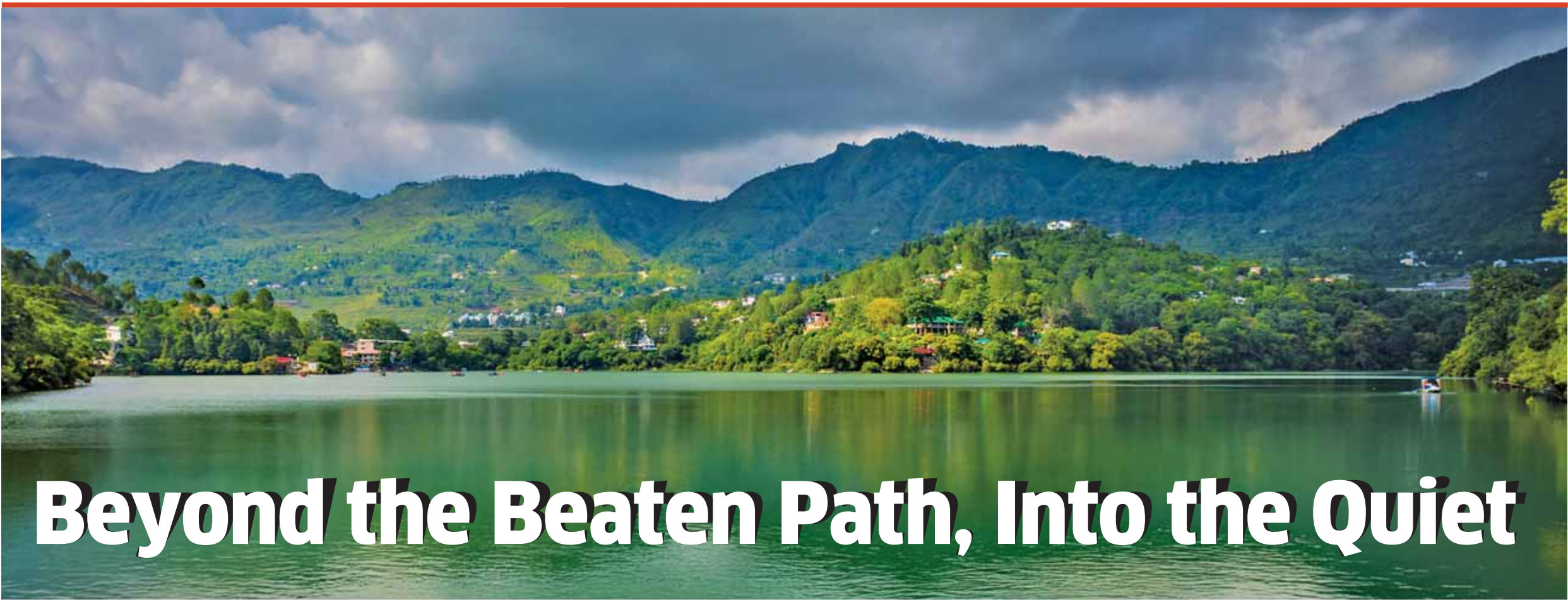
his flair, finesse, and storytelling. The duo took over the bar with a menu of meticulously curated cocktails that highlighted their signature creativity, precision, and deep understanding of flavour. Each drink told a story, bridging cultures and delighting the senses of everyone in attendance.

The *Rubicon Bar & Cigar Lounge*, with interiors designed by Japan’s renowned Studio Spin, provided an opulent yet intimate backdrop for the evening. Featuring rich wood panelling, maroon leather seating, warm ambient lighting, and the refined atmosphere of a private cigar lounge, *Rubicon* served as the perfect stage for Rabbit Hole’s artistic libations.

This collaboration marks yet another milestone for The *Leela Ambience Gurugram Hotel & Residences* in its mission to deliver world-class hospitality experiences. By partnering with global tastemakers such as Rabbit Hole, the hotel continues to elevate Gurugram’s luxury scene, offer-

RABBIT HOLE’S SIGNATURE STYLE

Tucked away behind a nondescript wooden door in Thonglor’s vibrant nightlife district, Rabbit Hole has earned a reputation for pushing the boundaries of mixology while maintaining a relaxed elegance. For one night only, this distinctive Bangkok spirit was brought to Gurugram, infusing the capital region’s cocktail culture with an international flair.



Beyond the Beaten Path, Into the Quiet



NOT TO MISS

The Kumaoni thali is a flavourful ode to the hills. It features aloo ke gutke, lahsuni palak and hearty gehat dal, paired with the region’s signature laal bhaat. The tangy Kumaoni raita and spicy bhaang ki chutney add layers of taste. For meat lovers, there’s tender chicken and a rich shikari mutton curry. The meal ends with a comforting bowl of rice kheer — soulful and satisfying.

A peaceful getaway in the hills, perfect for relaxing, exploring nature, and enjoying quiet moments

Tucked away in the lush folds of the Kumaon hills lies a lake of nine corners, **Naukuchiyatal** — an emerald secret that still shimmers in its serenity, away from the better-trodden paths of Nainital and Bhimtal.

And now, it has a luxurious new address: Naukuchia House, a recently renovated 42 — room property by the Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL), the custodians of the iconic Taj brand.

Standing elegantly by the lake, Naukuchia House is not just a hotel — it’s a sanctuary. Designed with understated charm and heritage echoes, the property offers panoramic lake views, with a private entry that takes you straight to the shimmering waters. Step out of your room, and you can hop directly onto a boat. I did. A slow ride in the morning mist, a fishing line tossed casually into the glassy lake surface — this isn’t just vacationing; it’s soul-deep unwinding.

For those chasing rejuvenation rather than adventure, I recommend their signature full-body spa therapy. My masseur was a magician with years of training in her fingertips, and the steam bath that followed was the kind of cleansing city souls long for.

But Naukuchia House doesn’t stop there. On one of the afternoons, the hotel arranged a guided walk into the forest, leading to an enchanting village clearing where warm tea and quiet conversations replaced Wi-Fi signals and screens.

And then there’s *Kainchi Dham* — just a scenic 30-minute drive away. This modest ashram has turned into a magnetic spiritual hub, drawing global figures like *Mark Zuckerberg*, *Julia Roberts*, and closer to home, *Virat Kohli* and *Anushka Sharma*.

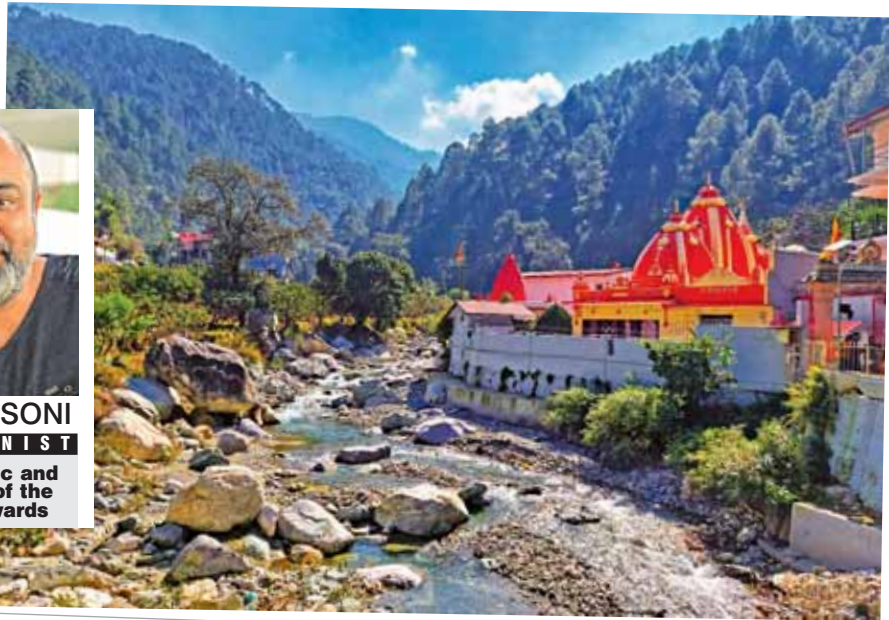
Whether you’re a believer or a curious wanderer, the calm of *Shri Neem Karoli Baba’s* temple will stay long after you leave. Back at the hotel, there’s plenty to indulge in. The temperature — controlled pool makes a dip possible even when the air gets crisp.

The food?

Their Asian fare is well-balanced, and the Indian kebabs-succulent, smoky, and served with Himalayan charm-are memorable. A chef’s nod to modern tastes without losing sight of tradition at Ija, their all — day dining restaurant that means ‘Mother’ in Kumaoni, is worth a praise. Naukuchiyatal is just 5.5 hours by road from Delhi, making it ideal for a 2-3 night escape. Unlike its over-touristed cousins, it offers silence, stars, and stories. And with Naukuchia House now writing its own, there’s never been a better time to visit.



PAWAN SONI
COLUMNIST
Food critic and founder of the Big F Awards



REJUVENATION

Naukuchiyatal Lake, with its nine serene corners, offers peaceful boating and fishing. Nearby, *Kainchi Dham* — home to *Shri Neem Karoli Baba* — draws seekers and celebrities alike for its calm, spiritual aura. Surrounded by pine forests and misty hills, the lake is a hidden gem for nature lovers. Birdwatchers often flock here to spot rare Himalayan species in the tranquil surroundings. Cozy homestays and lakeside cafés add charm to the quiet retreat.



BY SEEMA ANAND CHOPRA

Trying to take a step backwards into history, on a cool September autumn afternoon I stood looking at the birthplace of **Shakespeare** and wondered what it was that had drawn me here at this time of the year.

It is just another English house, but for its resident who made it extraordinary — this was home to one of the greatest English writers who hold a universal appeal. His plays and poems continue, till times today, to entice readers and audiences, transcending borders of countries and languages. Undoubtedly, this celebrated author is remembered even after 450 years, for his literary works have proudly, since ages, been imbibed in most school and university syllabuses. So, I went visiting the English town of Stratford-upon-Avon where the historic and skilfully restored house of William Shakespeare is located.

Shakespeare’s Birthplace Museum

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust was founded in 1847, almost three centuries after his birth, and has been able to preserve his legacy and the five Tudor houses associated with Shakespeare’s lifetime. By the 19th century, the house had decayed and was falling apart, but the timely restoration attempts by the famous writer — Charles Dickens, helped to save it. He organised performances in towns of England to raise funds to renovate the memorial house! We gathered this infor-

Footsteps in the Halls of Genius

A literary journey in an English town unites two voices across continents and centuries

The exterior shows the historic charm of the house and its surroundings

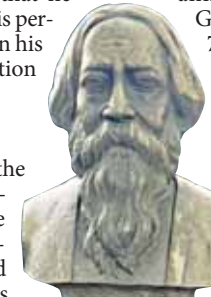


lour, hall, workshop, bedrooms and the furnishings have been reinstated too.

Also noteworthy is Shakespeare’s bedchamber and birthing room from the year 1564, recreated to perfection! We were informed that he sometimes wrote the description of his personal domestic items, furniture etc. in his plays, which has helped the restoration work to a great extent!

Discovery in the Gardens

In the 16th century, the garden of the house was used for various purposes by Shakespeare’s father — like wool-dealing activities, glove-making, growing vegetables, herbs and medicinal plants, a barn for pigs, hens and more and also as a storage area. Wandering through one of the five gardens attached to Shakespeare’s house, we made a discovery that added excitement to our visit and it was an icon of a true tribute to the ‘Voice of India’.



AU REVOIR

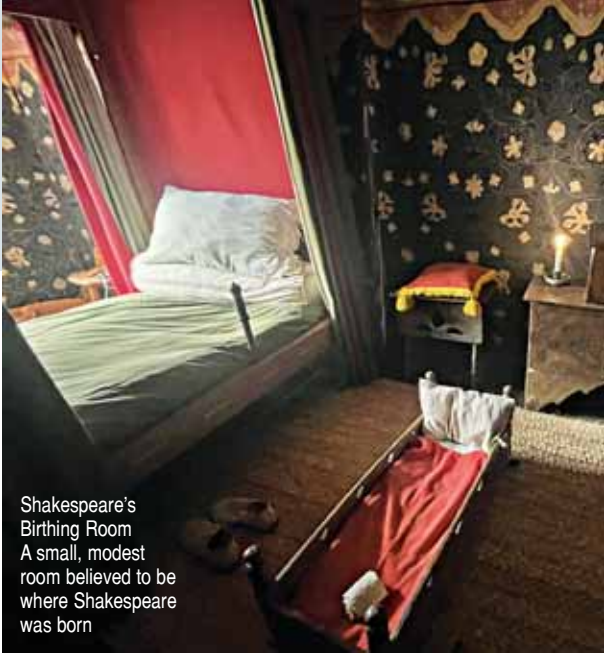
It’s amazing how such a humble space gave rise to one of the greatest writers ever. Quiet but meaningful. The setting adds to the magic — it’s like the whole street tells a story. We drove back with memories of two great poets and writers — William Shakespeare and Rabindranath Tagore, born centuries and continents apart, yet brought together by little effort and fate at Shakespeare’s Birthplace! No wonder that Rabindranath Tagore is referred to as the Shakespeare of India! Rabindranath Tagore’s birth anniversary — 7th May is celebrated annually at Shakespeare’s Birthplace by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust.

Tagore at Shakespeare’s Birthplace

On the occasion of the upcoming birth anniversary of Nobel Laureate Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore on 7th May, I recall my visit to Shakespeare’s Birthplace House fondly. After the Shakespeare house tour, we stepped out through one of the back exit doors, wandered through its five gardens attached to the main house, and spotted the bust of Rabindranath Tagore — the great Indian poet and writer — it stood there majestically, as a true homage to him. We were at a quiet garden corner of the house and there it was — a fine sculpture on a stone plinth carved with Tagore’s poem to Shakespeare, which he wrote on the tercentenary of Shakespeare’s death — completion of 300 years in 1916 — titled ‘In Honour of William



Shakespeare’s House on Henley Street
This timber — framed house is where Shakespeare was born



Shakespeare’s Birthing Room
A small, modest room believed to be where Shakespeare was born

Shakespeare’. In the poem, he praises Shakespeare as an English poet as well as a world poet — an accolade to Shakespeare’s work that inspired Tagore’s literary work too! Little did he envision that less than 50 years later, the poem would be back in the limelight when the Calcutta Art Society presented an ivory tablet of the poem at the newly opened Shakespeare Centre in 1964!

— The author is a travel writer and researcher



YOUR
WEEK
AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

As your work life blooms this week, be careful not to neglect personal connections due to your sharpened wit and a plethora of advanced ideas coming to the forefront. Your productivity becomes an asset, but may trigger feelings of emotional neglect from family and loved ones if left unbalanced. Mid-week could present chances to represent your organization or to travel for business after an initial period of basking in neglect from other employees, so try remaining vigilant around opposing coworkers as envy may lead others to seize the credit you rightfully deserve. Such ventures are bound to guarantee success and return value as they will serve to improve your standing and reputation in the organization.

Lucky number 3 | **Lucky colour** Midnight Blue
Lucky day Tuesday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

Possibly this week, you might feel pulled toward a more flexible and unusual way of going about your life. A valuable lesson comes from this sign, and it is that you possess freedom of your choices, all the reason to unapologetically choose the route you want irrespective of what others think. But at the same time, freedom seeking ambition might lead you to careless attitude, particularly when it comes to work matters. This could cause friction with authority and limit your progress or acknowledgement in the workplace. In any case, the solution lies in staying resolute and decluttered. As you make greater plans, try to bear in mind that fulfillment in achievements arises from consistent effort as well as the right intention.

Lucky number 18 | **Lucky colour** Ocean Blue
Lucky day Wednesday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

In the first two days, you might feel mentally drained and have a hard time making decisions. This conflict inside of you could cause tension and anxiety. As a means for relief, you might look to art, books, or even some religious texts. You actively seek people, and thus, become very social, as relationships become the new focus. A person's balance of intuitive and wise actions is very active at this time. The middle of the week is marked with solitude which can help provide an aid to personal reflection. This self-enlightenment is zen-like and very deep at this point. By the end of the week, there are some thrilling prospects waiting for you such as starting a new business, changing jobs, or even new developments in the family.

Lucky number 17 | **Lucky colour** Brown
Lucky day Thursday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

In the area of career and family, this week may present more challenges than usual. Disputes and misunderstandings may crop up among your colleagues, and interpersonal relationships may become even more strained. Remember to remain calm and to seek refuge from your behavior and attempt to approach the affected issues constructively. It is very likely that your energy and confidence will suffer a downturn on mid-week. Attending to personal health and relaxation is vital during this period. Greater insight could be derived from a consultation with a medical professional. By the week's end, a gradual improvement will be noticed. Personal matters, along with financial issues, will begin resolving and confidence will return gradually. Engaging in spiritual activities will aid in attaining tranquility and achieving equilibrium.

Lucky number 7 | **Lucky colour** Copper
Lucky day Thursday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

In matters of love and even in your profession, the week starts with some disappointments along with missed opportunities. You might feel lonely or alone in a crowd which rises from an underlying dissatisfaction. For those already in relationships, work obligations may entail unscheduled absences from one's loves. However, midweek brings a change of pace. A new business venture or an increase in income might be on the way. An assignment may have been given to you and your success will depend on how hard you work and commit yourself. Towards the end of the weekend, you should watch your temper which may lead to rage, or you falling into some emotional temptation that alters your sense of judgment. You can greatly benefit from paying attention to your subconscious through dreaming, remaining within the boundaries of logical and rational aspirations.

Lucky number 5 | **Lucky colour** Pink
Lucky day Friday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

Get ready for the week because you will feel an extreme level of happiness and satisfaction this week. Everything from your emotional state, health, and finances will bring deep fulfillment and satisfaction. You will be able to achieve everything you want while being grateful. You will start receiving better health and will feel more at ease during your day to day activities. All the burdens that felt impossible to overcome before will now seem like an easy task. From a personal point of view, you will receive lots of warmth and support from your family which underscores the importance of true love. Be grateful for the affection you do get, as it provides great strength. The reality you construct during this week will turn into a source of great strength and success in the long run.

Lucky number 12 | **Lucky colour** Purple
Lucky day Friday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

The clarity that you gain during this period will help you to navigate smoothly through any challenges converting negativity into positivity, and not the other way around. Instead of avoiding your difficulties, open yourself towards a new and deeper pursuit that is sustainable deep-rooted in lasting happiness and fulfillment. You may experience emotional struggles or physical imbalances, but learn to ride their wave instead of trying to stifle them. Release any attachments to the past and focus entirely on resolving conflicts within yourself in the present moment. By the end of the week, a decision, probably yours, will restore clarity on travel or family issues. Expect holistic healing on a mental and physical level as the week closes.

Lucky number 14 | **Lucky colour** Grey
Lucky day Monday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Your determination, along with other factors this week, is sure to guide you to achieving all of your set goals. Embracing the strong focus is sure to yield inviting results. Turning those dreams into achievements is going to be a walk in the park now. Growth would be accompanied with opportunities in family or new endeavors. Towards the middle of the week, your memories are bound to wash over you like a wave alongside old friends or places which hold value bringing joy and happiness into your life. By the end of the week, focus from the outside world transforms into the inner self allowing an equilibrium shift to be attained via meditation, spiritual reflection, or simple prayer leading your introspective thought.

Lucky number 20 | **Lucky colour** Mint
Lucky day Saturday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week, your initiative and ability to lead are reasonably high. You become the source of strength for others, offering help and assistance where it is needed. You show great affection and might need to be a bit loving at times to set the right balance. You may get an impetus of some sort in the middle of the week which can stir some conflict or argument of sorts. You will want things settled your way and even though this isn't physical battle, it can feel like an emotional one. Either way, in this period of time, you won't be moved, focusing instead on everything sound and put together. No matter Ma, there are always mixed results and in this case, your capability of noticing every single detail will make it easier for you to make money. You stay safe with your wit.

Lucky number 2 | **Lucky colour** Lime
Lucky day Monday



CANCER June 21-July 22

Feeling apprehensive and fearful of what others think could dominate your life this week. This may also lead to internal conflict and self-doubt. Unproductive conversations that can spiral into useless confrontations are also a possibility. Although it may seem like others are the issue, the real struggle is within yourself. In this case, you need to work on forgiving yourself which will help you channel your energy towards these unconstructive conflicts. With a positive attitude, success can be attained. The beginning of the week will allow you to feel motivated and strong achieving goals. If there is anything that needs to be worked on, now is the time to put in the effort with the extra energy to attain them.

Lucky number 1 | **Lucky colour** Fuchsia
Lucky day Friday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week, you will lead with your natural ability to be a strong marker of confidence and attract all sorts of positive attention. The week will start off with your desires being fulfilled, and a feeling of satisfaction will also accompany you as you experience the joy of family and new beginnings. You would feel an inner calmness and sense of calm after an important life cycle is finished. This would allow you to rest and enjoy the moment. However, some outdated beliefs or practices stemming from the past may be hindering your growth so do remember this. With this in mind, new perspectives that positively change your life are a must here. By the end of the week, strive to be neutral about challenges; exercise clear judgment, unwavering integrity, and strongly articulate elements of your truth.

Lucky number 9 | **Lucky colour** Orange
Lucky day Tuesday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week begins with a powerful urge towards spiritual development, driving you toward seeking enlightenment. You may find peace in meditative techniques like prayer and even participate in group spiritual activities. Enjoying your own company brings calm and quiet moment, reflecting back towards your milestones, and accepting the efforts you have put in. In projects like constructing a house, there is a feeling of closure. The joy that comes from family get-togethers and other celebrations will be significant, and relationships including those with spouses will deepen through understanding, caring, and affection. Along with these, this week contains chances of buying movable or immovable assets which combine external achievements with internal satisfaction. This enlightening journey will be taken with the guidance and support of elders. During this period, embrace the phase that brings ample growth.

Lucky number 15 | **Lucky colour** Lilac
Lucky day Sunday

Madhu Kotiya is a tarot card reader, spiritual healer, and Founder, MShezaim Institute of Tarot and Divination. Contact details: madhu@indiatarot.com, www.indiatarot.com, M: 9873283331

THOUGHTFUL INSIGHTS



Dr. Tanu Jain

While destiny may chart the broad course, confusion is often a creation of our own minds. I eventually understood — clarity is not external; it's the power of one's inner being

How often do we find ourselves at the crossroads of decision-making — hesitant, confused, or gripped by the fear of making the wrong choice? The mind echoes with questions: Am I doing the right thing? What if this backfires? Would life have been better if I had chosen the other path?

These are not rare thoughts. Many of us revisit decisions, wishing we had taken more time or acted differently. But then again, is the course of our life truly in our hands? Or are we being gently steered by the unseen currents of divine will?

While destiny may chart the broad course, confusion is often a creation of our own minds. In one of my encounters, I met a respected justice, a spiritually inclined man with decades of experience in law. I asked him earnestly, "Sir, how do you make such critical decisions about others' lives without hesitation or emotional burden?"

He smiled and replied, "I have never had a problem making decisions. My mind is clear, and I have no biases. I serve my duty with sincerity, and that anchors me."

That statement lingered with me for days. How could someone remain untouched by the emotional weight of decision-making? I eventually understood — clarity is not external; it's the power of one's inner being. His spiritual grounding and absence of personal attachment gave him freedom from confusion. He had transcended personal likes, dislikes, and ambitions. His work was not a job, it was his dharma —



his sacred duty.

The spiritual texts speak deeply about this inner clarity:

"Yada te moha-kalilam buddhir vyatitarishyati, tada gantasi nirvedam shrotavyasya shrutasya cha."

— Bhagavad Gita 2.52

"When your intelligence has passed out of the dense forest of delusion, you shall become indifferent to all that has been heard and all that is to be heard."

This verse emphasises that clarity comes

when the fog of delusion lifts — when ego, attachment, and fear no longer influence your thoughts. So, what really brings that clarity?

Clear Priorities is the Key

Confusion creeps in when we are torn between our personal attachments and our responsibilities. When your priorities are aligned with your higher purpose — not temporary pleasures or emotional biases — decisions become smooth.

"Na karmanam anarambhan naiskarmyam puruso'snute"
— Bhagavad Gita 3.4

"One does not attain freedom from action by abstaining from work; nor does one reach perfection merely by renunciation." The key lies in understanding your role and walking it without ego or expectation.

Mental Clarity Through Devotion

When the mind is purified through sadhana — dedicated spiritual practice, service, and sincerity — clarity arises naturally. Decisions are no longer a burden; they become expressions of your inner purpose.

No Favourites, No Bias is a Blessing

When you stop playing favourites — be it people, outcomes, or even ambitions — you rise above confusion.

"Udaasina-vadaaseeno gunair yo na vichaalyate"
— Bhagavad Gita 14.23

"He who remains like one unconcerned, unshaken by the modes of nature — such a person gains peace."

Seeing Work as Worship Finally Leads to

Liberation

When your office, your duty, your contribution to the world becomes your tapasya (austerity), then your entire being aligns with it. Work stops being a burden. It becomes seva — sacred service.

In the end, life will always present us with choices. The roads may diverge, dilemmas may arise, and uncertainty may knock on our doors time and again.

But when we are anchored in purpose, detached from outcome, and aligned with our inner truth, the fog clears.

True clarity is not about always knowing the right answer — it's about being so rooted in your dharma that even the toughest choices feel light. It is the silence of the soul, not the noise of the world, that guides the wisest decisions.

As the Upanishads remind us: *"Dharmam chara, satyam vada"*
— Taaittiriya Upanishad
"Walk the path of righteousness; speak the truth."

When decisions come from a place of truth, integrity, and surrender, even the unknown becomes sacred.

You may not always control the path, but you can choose to walk it with clarity, devotion, and grace. And in doing so, you don't just make decisions — you shape your destiny.

— The author's views are personal.
The author is a civil servant at the Ministry of Defence and a spiritual speaker