

PM Modi: Working to provide free online coaching to students

■ Vadodra

Prime Minter Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the Government was working to reduce the burden of fees faced by the families of students preparing for competitive examinations by providing free online coaching. Speaking at the 'NaMo for Viksit Bharat' programme here where he inaugurated or laid foundation stones for ₹35,000 crore-worth development projects, the PM referred to the announcement he had made in this regard in his August 15 Red Fort speech. "You are aware that lakhs of young people prepare for competitive examinations. Every year, a significant



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the inauguration and foundation stone laying of ₹35,000 crore development projects at an event, in Vadodra, Gujarat

portion of our families' earnings is spent on coaching for these students," Modi said. "We aim to save money for the families of poor and middle-class students. Consequently, the Government is moving towards providing free online coaching, allowing our youth

to prepare under the guidance of India's best teachers. The Government itself will oversee this coaching arrangement," he added. Changing global needs had also changed the approach to education, with skills being given equal importance alongside degrees, the prime minister noted. Hence, the Government was reshaping the education policy and institutions, he said. Artificial Intelligence expertise would not be limited only to the IT sector and it could be used in agriculture, healthcare, manufacturing and robotics startups, he noted. India was witnessing an "extraordinary era", Modi said, and called upon the youth to prioritise the goal of a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047.

Election petition, SIR delay bypolls to 2 LS seats

■ New Delhi

An election petition and the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls have delayed bypolls to two Lok Sabha seats, while a by-election to another parliamentary constituency has already been announced. The Basirhat seat in West Bengal, the Shillong seat in Meghalaya and the Nagaon constituency in Assam fell vacant on different dates. The Election Commission on Monday announced a bypoll to the Nagaon Lok Sabha seat but not to the other two. Responding to a query on why bypolls to the Shillong and Basirhat parliamentary seats were not announced, senior EC functionaries said the ongoing SIR in Meghalaya and a pending election petition in the Calcutta High Court were behind the deci-



sion. An election petition was filed challenging the election of TMC's SK Nurul Islam from Basirhat. But months after taking the oath as a Lok Sabha member, he died on September 25, 2024. Despite his death, the petition challenging his election remains pending. An election petition can be filed against the victory of a candi-

winning candidate's election as void. The Shillong Lok Sabha seat was vacated following the demise of Voice of the People's Party MP Ricky Andrew Syngkon on February 19 this year. Poll authority functionaries said the SIR is in progress in Meghalaya, where the final electoral rolls will be published on October 21. The lone Lok Sabha bypoll will be held in Assam's Nagaon constituency, which was vacated by Pradyut Bordoloi. Votes will be cast on October 6, and counting will take place on October 9. Bordoloi had won Nagaon on a Congress ticket in 2024 but quit the party in March this year and joined the BJP ahead of the Assam assembly elections. He subsequently resigned from the Lok Sabha, contested the assembly polls as a BJP candidate from Dispur and won.

Congress seeks FIR over purification ritual at UK Haldwani rally venue

■ New Delhi

A Congress leader on Tuesday sought registration of an FIR against Shri Ram Dharmarth Seva Nyas president, Girish Chandra Pandey and 15 others over an alleged "purification" ritual performed at Ramlila Maidan in Uttarakhand's Haldwani after the party president Mallikarjun Kharge's address. In his complaint at Parliament Street police station, MP Mallu Ravi alleged that Pandey and 15 unidentified persons entered into a "criminal conspiracy" and performed a yajna and sprinkled Gangajal at the venue on August 10, two days after Kharge addressed the meeting there on August 8. Ravi alleged that the act was aimed at insulting and



Police stop Congress leaders during a protest march towards the Uttarakhand CM's residence over an FIR filed against Rahul Gandhi in Haldwani over the 'purification' row, in Dehradun

humiliating members of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities and was contrary to constitutional guarantees of equality and the abolition of untouchability. He said the incident had deeply hurt his feelings and those of his community, adding that he had received

calls from several people expressing concern over the alleged practice. Ravi urged the police to register a case, arrest those responsible and take strict legal action under the SC/ST Act, the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act and relevant provisions of the BNS.

CWMA directs Karnataka to release 6,000 cusecs to TN

■ New Delhi

The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) on Tuesday upheld the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee's (CWRC) recommendation directing Karnataka to ensure a flow of 6,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for 15 days. The decision was taken at the 57th meeting of the CWMA held in Delhi under the chairmanship of SK Haldar. Officials from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka among others participated in the meeting. "Karnataka has released 33 TMC of Cauvery water towards Tamil Nadu's Biligundlu border point so far in accordance with the directions issued by the CWMA and CWRC," Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Limited Managing Director Mahesha told reporters after the meeting. He added that



despite Karnataka being in a "distress situation", the state has been following the orders of the CWMA and CWRC and there has been no violation so far. "If the situation were normal, it would be different. But now that we are in a distress situation, we have to follow the distress-sharing proportion as per the orders

issued by the CWMA and CWRC. We have been following those orders so far and, accordingly, have released water," Mahesha told reporters. Earlier in the day, the CWRC had recommended that Karnataka release water to Tamil Nadu at a rate of 6,000 cusecs for the next 15

days. The recommendation was upheld by the CWMA later in the afternoon, Mahesha said. "The people of Tamil Nadu are demanding nearly 20,000 cusecs. They made this demand at the meeting, but at the same time, the CWMA's direction is restricted to 6,000 cusecs," he added. This

follows the CWMA's earlier order on August 25 when, upholding the CWRC's recommendation, it had directed Karnataka to ensure a flow of 9,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for 15 days. The meeting was held following the Supreme Court's direction to the Tamil Nadu Government a day earlier to raise before the CWMA its grievance over the release of its proportionate share of Cauvery water by Karnataka. At its 141st meeting on August 24, the CWRC had directed Karnataka to release water from its reservoirs and ensure a flow of 9,000 cusecs at the Biligundlu border point. The flow had to be maintained continuously for 15 days, during which Tamil Nadu was expected to receive approximately 11.66 TMC of water. The release is expected to benefit Kuruvai cultivation and meet Tamil Nadu's drinking water requirements.

Rahul questions Amit Shah over Manipuri musician's death

■ New Delhi

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday lashed out at the Modi Government over the beating to death of a musician from Manipur here, asking what Home Minister Amit Shah's ministry is doing to stop this "growing lawlessness" and demanding a swift investigation into the incident. Vikram Singh, a 54-year-old Manipuri musician, died after a group of delivery workers and dhaba staff allegedly assaulted him when he objected to their shouting and drinking alcohol outside his Kilokari village apartment early Monday, officials said. Police arrested seven men and apprehended one juvenile in the case. "Chongtham



LoP in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi meets Kerala Chief Minister VJ Satheesan at 10, Janpath, in New Delhi

Vikram Singh ji, a renowned musician from Manipur, went downstairs to ask some men to lower the noise outside his home. He was beaten to death for it," Gandhi said on X. A father, killed outside his

own home, in his own country's capital, he said. "After many such incidents, every Northeast family in Delhi is asking the same question today - are we safe here?" the Leader of

Opposition in the Lok Sabha said. "What are Shah's MHA and Delhi Police doing to stop this growing lawlessness, especially against people from the Northeast?" Gandhi said. There must be a swift investigation, and the culprits must be brought to justice, he asserted and expressed condolences to Vikram's family, he said. The Sunlight Colony police station received a PCR call regarding the beating of Singh, who has been residing in Kilokari village for several years. A preliminary enquiry revealed that Singh, who belonged to the Meitei community, objected to men creating a nuisance outside his house. He sustained injuries during the attack, in which the men rained blows and punches on him, police said.

Singh's son Yaiphaba rushed him to Holy Family Hospital, where he later succumbed to his injuries, they said. Police initiated an investigation into the circumstances leading to the assault and Singh's death. The North East Students Society, Delhi University (NESSDU) condoled Singh's death and described him as a "respected Manipuri musician". "According to reports, Singh went downstairs from his residence in Kilokari, New Delhi, after a group of six men were allegedly drinking and creating a disturbance outside his apartment. When he requested them to lower the noise, he was reportedly attacked by the group and sustained severe injuries, to which he later succumbed," the students' body said.

MP CM Yadav visits BEEAH HQ in Sharjah to discuss waste management

■ Dubai

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Tuesday visited the headquarters of BEEAH in Sharjah during the three-day Annual Investment Meeting (AIM Congress) 2026 and held a high-level bilateral meeting with BEEAH Group CEO and vice-chairman Khalid Al Huraimel. The discussions focused on environmental protection, smart city development, circular economy and advanced waste management solutions, with particular emphasis on their potential implementation in Madhya Pradesh. During the visit, Yadav inspected BEEAH's facilities for the treatment of industrial waste, sewage waste, waste reprocessing and disposal of inert material. Experts briefed him on the advanced technologies being used at the facility. Yadav invited BEEAH to explore investment and technology partnerships in municipal solid waste management and waste-to-energy projects across Madhya Pradesh. He said the State was moving rapidly towards clean energy and sustainable urban development and that BEEAH's digital, AI-enabled and circu-



MP Chief Minister Mohan Yadav visits the BEEAH waste management facility in Sharjah

lar-economy capabilities could complement Madhya Pradesh's smart city and clean-energy initiatives. The Chief Minister also discussed the potential for collaboration in electric vehicle-based fleets and renewable energy projects. Highlighting Indore's waste management model, Yadav said the city had established an exemplary model in solid waste management and bio-CNG. He proposed that BEEAH work with the Indore model to develop advanced solutions aimed at improving waste management and achieving the goal of zero-waste landfills. Yadav also formally invited Al Huraimel to the Global Investors Summit 2027, scheduled to be held in Bhopal next year. He urged BEEAH to consider Madhya

Pradesh as a priority destination in its future global expansion plans. During the visit, Yadav toured BEEAH's AI-enabled and net-zero-ready headquarters, designed by renowned architect Zaha Hadid, and appreciated its sustainable design and advanced facilities. Established as a public-private partnership in 2007, BEEAH has expanded from a waste management company into a diversified group operating in environmental services, renewable energy, technology, healthcare and sustainable real estate. According to the information shared during the visit, the group has more than 13,000 employees representing 46 nationalities and operations across the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

MPSC aspirants protest in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar



■ Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar

Scores of MPSC aspirants staged a protest in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar on Tuesday, alleging widespread corruption and paper leaks, and demanded a high-level probe into the recent recruitment examinations. Protesters gathered at the Kranti Chowk area of the city, demanding the immediate appointment of officers with a "clean image" to the top posts in the Maharashtra Public Service Commission (MPSC). A similar march was held in Pune on Monday.

ED action against Haque part of Operation Lotus 2.0: TMC

■ New Delhi

Trinamool Congress on Tuesday said the Enforcement Directorate's search of its Rajya Sabha MP Nadimul Haque's Delhi residence was part of "Operation Lotus 2.0" to put pressure on party lawmakers who do not cross over. TMC sources claimed a former leader of the party had been in touch with



Haque as part of an attempt to pressure him, but the MP refused to "strike a deal". The ED on Monday searched seven premises linked to Haque and his Urdu newspaper Akhbar-E-Mashriq in Kolkata, Delhi and Ranchi as part of a money-laundering probe. Officials had said the probe relates to allegations concerning the publication and dissemination of material promoting communal disharmony.

NGT orders replacement of dead saplings and tighter waste control in Bhopal

■ Bhopal

National Green Tribunal's (NGT) Central Zone Bench in Bhopal has directed authorities to replace all saplings that died during compensatory plantation undertaken over the past five years and ensure 100% survival of the new plantations. The direction came during the hearing of a petition filed by Nitin Saxena concerning tree felling and compensatory plantations linked to development projects in Bhopal. The bench, comprising judicial

member Justice Shyo Kumar Singh and expert member Sudhir Kumar Chaturvedi, expressed serious concern over the extremely low survival rate reported by the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Forest Department's Environmental Forestry Division. The tribunal observed that compensatory plantation is intended to offset the environmental impact of trees felled for development works. However, the death of planted saplings due to inadequate maintenance defeats the purpose and results in environmental loss. The NGT directed the authorities to immediately replace saplings that have died over the last five years and ensure regular watering and protection until the plants are fully established. It also sought details of the

average height and girth of saplings planted during the period, rejecting reliance solely on plantation figures recorded on paper. The tribunal has sought site-wise photographs of 10,000 trees planted along roadsides and medians and 70,000 trees on land allotted by the Bhopal Collector in Huzur tehsil. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board have been given 30 days to submit the required information. In a separate matter, the NGT issued directions for

stricter management of biomedical waste in Bhopal. The case involved alleged dumping and burning of expired medicines, medicine strips, syrup bottles and injection vials at an open site in Rani Avantibai Transport Nagar behind the RTO premises. A joint committee reported that the waste had been removed and handed over to an authorised Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facility (CBWTF). The facility confirmed receiving 5.2 kg of expired medicines, which were disposed of through incineration. A sub-

sequent inspection on August 27 found the site clear of biomedical waste and related residues. The tribunal directed that biomedical waste transport vehicles have GPS-based online real-time tracking, separate cabins for staff and colour-coded waste containers, leak-proof waste compartments and bio-hazard markings. The NGT directed that biomedical waste must be collected, transported and treated within 48 hours of generation. The MPCCB was asked to ensure that healthcare establishments have the

required authorisations and memberships of authorised CBWTFs and take action against violators. The municipal corporation was also directed to strengthen source-level segregation and separate collection of household healthcare waste and ensure its regular handover to authorised facilities. It was asked to prevent mixing, unauthorised disposal and open burning or dumping of waste. The next hearing in the tree plantation matter has been scheduled for October 6. Advocate Harpreet Singh Gupta represented Saxena.

EDITORIAL

It's not without reason

It's not without reason that the Supreme Court has come down hard on states that were tardy in implementing the detailed guidelines laid down in the court's directives on action to be taken to prevent lynchings, that have been going on for the past few years. Sheer apathy can be the only reason why there is a distinct lack of enthusiasm in the executive to act to and rein in a phenomenon that has earned the nation a terrible image abroad. It's just not the sully of India's fair name though. Just imagine the fear in a person's mind if we as a nation can't guarantee that anyone going about his/her business won't be lynched for any random reason — whether as the victim of cow vigilantes targeting so-called cattle smugglers or a mob gathering to take on rumoured child kidnappers. The judges pulled up as many as 19 states for not doing enough by way of preventive measures. On the other hand, there is reason to believe the police in some states is hand-in-glove with cow vigilantes in running a virtual protection racket against those who buy and move cattle from Rajasthan's fairs to neighbouring places. Any new law contemplated to arm the police with more teeth to handle vigilantes and lynch mobs can't be a magic wand to stop lynchings. The proclivities of people to take advantage of the state machinery looking the other way if they act in a way detrimental to peace and harmony must be suppressed — and that can happen only if exemplary punishment is meted out to lynch mobs. The lack of clear follow-up action in police and judicial work from the first lynching in 2015 in Dadri, that led to this distressing trend, down to the last one in Alwar, is enough to spook citizens. Messages condemning such uncivilised practices as gathering in numbers to kill strangers have come most recently from the vicepresident. The President and the Prime Minister have also spoken up in this regard, raging against mobs taking the law into their own hands. But if the resolve to stop these unlawful acts is not found in the state's law enforcement forces, people can only be seen being further emboldened in their destructive and outright inhuman behaviour, more in keeping with medieval times than a modern democracy avowing peace as a fundamental objective. If the Union home ministry and the states were serious about rooting out this evil, a panel to study and submit an action taken report on the 15 to 20 incidents of lynchings in three years would have been set up long ago. Have we become so apathetic as a nation that we can't see the damage the lynchings are causing to the psyche of our own people? The rise in petrol and diesel prices which is dictated by the oil producing countries, must be seen as something permanent and therefore the most rational answer to this situation is to lessen the dependence on oil as a source of energy. It is estimated that a rise of \$10 per barrel increase in oil price increases India's import bill by around \$8 billion, not to mention the adverse impact on the GDP and the current account deficit.

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A hand-drawn illustration of a hand writing on a notepad, with a newspaper clipping titled 'TRICOLLOUR ESTATE' and a pen resting on it. The newspaper clipping features a city skyline and the text 'THE NEWS THAT MATTERS'. The background is a light beige color with a subtle texture.

Sensex, Nifty End Higher After Volatile Trade As India Avenges Pahalgam Attack

Mumbai: Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty closed higher in a volatile session on Wednesday as India launched missile strikes on terrorist hide-outs in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir. After gyrating between gains and losses during the day, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 105.71 points or 0.13 per cent higher at 80,746.78. The index opened sharply down by 692 points and fell further to hit a day's low of 79,937.48 in early trade. However, buying in private banks and select auto shares such as Tata Motors helped the barometer recover most of the losses and hit a high of 80,844.63 later. The 50-issue Nifty of NSE advanced by 34.80 points or 0.14 per cent to settle at 24,414.40. Nifty moved between a high of 24,449.60 and a low of 24,220 during the session. India and the UK on Tuesday sealed an ambitious free trade deal along with a double contribution convention with Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying that the landmark pacts will catalyse trade, investment, growth and job creation in both the economies. Modi made the announcement on the agreements after a phone conversation with his British counterpart Keir Starmer. Omaha: Billionaire Warren Buffett shocked an arena full of shareholders Saturday by announcing that he will retire at the end of the year, bringing the curtain down on a six-decade run leading Berkshire Hathaway that made him the most influential investor in the world. Buffett said he will recommend to Berkshire Hathaway's board on Sunday that Vice Chairman Greg Abel should replace him. "I think the time has arrived where Greg should become the chief executive officer of the company at year end," Buffett said. Abel has been Buffett's designated successor for years, and he already manages all of Berkshire's noninsurance businesses. But it was always assumed that he would not take over until after Buffett's death. Previously the 94-year-old Buffett always said he had no plans to retire. Buffett announced the news at the end of a five-hour question and answer period without tak-



ing any questions about it. He said the only board members who knew this was coming were his two children, Howard and Susie Buffett. Abel, who was sitting next to Buffett on stage, had no warning. Abel returned an hour later without Buffett to conduct the company's formal business meeting, and he responded to the news. "I just want to say I couldn't be more humbled and honored to be part of Berkshire as we go forward," Abel said. Many investors have said they believe Abel will do a good job running Berkshire, but it remains to be seen how good he will be at investing Berkshire's cash. Buffett endorsed him Saturday by pledging to keep his fortune invested in the company. "I have no intention — zero — of selling one share of Berkshire Hathaway. I will give it away eventually," Buffett said. "The decision to keep every share is an economic decision because I think the prospects of Berkshire will be better under Greg's management than mine." Thousands of investors in the Omaha arena gave Buffett a prolonged standing ovation after his announcement in recognition of his 60 years leading the company. Markets regulator Sebi on Monday directed brokers to collect all other margins, except value at risk (VaR) and Extreme Loss Margin (ELM), by the T+1 settlement day. The decision has been taken due to the shift from T+2 to T+1 settlement cycle. Trading members or clearing members are required to mandatorily collect upfront VaR margins and ELM from their clients. Earlier, they had time till 'T+2' working days to collect margins (except VaR margins and ELM) from their clients. "With effect from January 27, 2023, the settlement cycle has been reduced from T+2 to T+1 across all scrips in the cash market." In this regard, based on representation received from the Brokers' Industry Standards Forum (ISF) and to ensure a more robust risk management framework,

CCEA Approves Revised SHAKTI Scheme For Allocation Of Coal To Power Plants



New Delhi: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Wednesday approved the revised Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala Transparently in India (SHAKTI) for allocation of coal to the power sector to help them meet long-term and short-term coal requirement. The approval was given by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a move aimed at simplification of the linkage process. The CCEA "has approved grant of fresh coal linkages to thermal power plants of central sector/state sector/independent power producers (IPPs)," the coal ministry said in a statement. The combined market valuation of seven of the top-10 valued firms surged by Rs 2.31 lakh crore (Rs 2,31,177.3 crore) in a holiday-shortened last week, with Reliance Industries emerging as the biggest gainer amid a largely optimistic trend in equities. While Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Infosys and ITC emerged as the gainers in the top-10 pack, Tata Consultancy Services, Bajaj Finance, and Hindustan Unilever faced losses in their valuation. Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 1,289.46 points or 1.62 per cent. Equity markets were closed on hursday for 'Maharashtra Day'. The market valuation of Reliance Industries jumped Rs 1,64,959.62 crore to Rs 19,24,235.76 crore. Bharti Airtel's valuation surged by Rs 20,755.67 crore to Rs 10,56,029.91 crore. ICICI Bank added Rs 19,381.9 crore to Rs 10,20,200.69 crore in its valuation. Benchmark BSE Sensex soared by 1,006 points to close above 80,000 level on Monday as a sharp rally in Reliance Industries and private banks, and foreign fund inflows helped stock markets cut short two days of fall amid India-Pakistan border tensions. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,005.84 points or 1.27 per cent to settle at 80,218.37 with 23 of its constituents ending with gains and seven in the red. During the day, it surged 1,109.35 points or 1.40 per cent to 80,321.88. The NSE Nifty rallied 289.15 points or 1.20 per cent to close at 24,328.50. Reliance Industries surged by 5.27 per cent to emerge as the biggest gainer among Sensex stocks. The oil-to-retail behemoth reported a 2.4 per cent rise in March quarter net profit beating street estimates. Mahindra & Mahindra spurted 2.29 per cent after the auto major announced a Rs 555-crore acquisition of SML Isuzu and said that the buyout was a strong strategic fit for the company that would put it in a strong position. SML

Isuzu Ltd shares, on the other hand, tanked 10 per cent. Sun Pharma, Tata Steel, State Bank of India, Axis Bank, Tata Motors, Larsen & Toubro and ICICI Bank were also among the Sensex gainers. HCL Tech, UltraTech Cement, Nestle and Hindustan Unilever were among the laggards. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 2,952.33 crore on Friday, according to exchange data. Foreign investors have infused Rs 17,425 crore in the country's equity markets last week, supported by a combination of favourable global cues and strong domestic macroeconomic fundamentals. This came following a net investment of Rs 8,500 crore in the preceding holiday-truncated week ended April 18. "The domestic market recouped from the losses incurred during the last two days of the previous week, which stemmed from the border tensions." While sustained buying from FIIs and better results from RIL also boosted the investor sentiment. A weakening dollar and inflationary pressure in the US may attract FIIs into the domestic market," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi index and Tokyo's Nikkei 225 settled in the positive territory while Shanghai SSE Composite and Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended lower. European markets were trading higher. US markets ended with gains on Friday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude dipped 0.19 per cent to USD 66.74 a barrel. The BSE barometer Sensex tanked 588.90 points or 0.74 per cent to settle at 79,212.53 on Friday. Falling for the second day, the Nifty tumbled 207.35 points or 0.86 per cent to 24,039.35. The tourism sector in Kashmir has received a body blow following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, with tour operators saying the incident shook the confidence of tourists, leading to mass cancellation of bookings. Terrorists killed 26 civilians, including 25 tourists and a local ponywalla, on April 22 in a targeted attack in Baisaran meadows, around 7 km from the main Pahalgam town. The dastardly attack shook the nation as it was reported that victims were shot at point-blank range after the gunmen confirmed they were not Muslim. Following the attack, tourists left Kashmir en masse, with airlines running special flights to fly them out, given that the highway was also shut for the first few days after the attack. iving details of how they aim to reduce the impact of the terror attack on J&K tourism, Patil said they plan to allow visitors

Pahalgam Attack: Pakistan Shuts Ports For Indian Ships After New Delhi Bans Imports From Islamabad



New Delhi: Pakistan has banned the use of its ports by Indian flag carriers, hours after New Delhi imposed fresh punitive measures, including a ban on import of goods and entry of Pakistani ships into its ports, against Islamabad. India on Saturday imposed a ban on the import of goods coming from or transiting through Pakistan and also the entry of Pakistani ships into its ports even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the country is committed to take "firm and decisive" action against terrorists and their backers. Pakistan late Saturday ordered that any "Indian flag carriers shall not be allowed to visit any Pakistani port", Dawn, a Pakistani newspaper reported. "In view of the recent development of maritime situation with neighbouring country, Pakistan in order to safeguard maritime sovereignty, economic interest and national security enforces following measures with immediate effect: Indian flag carriers shall not be allowed to visit any Pakistani port, Pakistani flag carriers shall not visit any Indian port (and) any exemption or dispensation shall be examined and decided on case to case basis," the newspaper reported. The Dawn newspaper had quoted an order issued late Saturday by Pakistan's Ministry of Maritime Affairs' Ports and Shipping Wing. Ties between the two neighbouring countries plummeted following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people, mostly tourists. The App Store ecosystem in India facilitated Rs 44,447 crore (\$5.31 billion) in developer billings and sales in 2024, a new Apple study showed on Monday. The study was conducted by Professor Viswanath Pingali from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. In one of its most important findings, the study showed that more than 94 per cent of that commerce accrued solely to developers and businesses of all sizes, without any commission paid to Apple. And over the last five years, the global earnings of India-based developers have tripled, underscoring the tremendous business opportunity and global reach the App Store provides, the company said in a statement. "The App Store has been an economic miracle for developers in India and all around the world, and we're thrilled to support their work," said Tim Cook, Apple's CEO. "This study underlines the power of India's incredibly vibrant app economy. And we're committed to keep investing in the success of developers of all sizes as they build apps that make an important impact and enrich people's lives." The study by Professor Pingali takes a closer look at the key drivers shaping the App Store ecosystem in India, including increased app usage in sectors like food delivery, travel, gaming and entertainment. In 2024 alone, App Store developers generated Rs 38,906 crores (\$4.65 billion) in total billings and sales from the sale of physical goods and services, Rs 3,014 crores (\$352.9 million) from in-app advertising, and Rs 2,527 crores (\$302 million) from digital goods and services. Since its launch more than fifteen years ago, developers have more ways than ever to monetise their apps and build successful businesses on the App Store, resulting in a healthy and dynamic ecosystem.

'Didn't Enjoy Bank Job, So Quit It': Haryana's 'Harley Davidson Milkman' Upgrades To Audi

Faridabad: Young Amit Bhadana was all settled in his life after getting a well-paying job in a bank right after completing his graduation. But Bhadana's passion for high-end motorcycles and cars coupled with his knack for milk business run by the family prompted him to quit the job and start delivering milk door-to-door on a motorcycle. Years down the line, Bhadana has become a household name in Haryana's Faridabad where he now delivers milk in an Audi car every morning leaving his customers and passersby in awe. Bhadana, a resident of Mohabbatabad village in Faridabad, is no less than a celebrity today as he goes selling milk in an Audi car worth crores of rupees. Many times, his customers stand at the door even before he arrives because

they want to capture him with the Audi car with their phone cameras. Bhadana said that he was fond of bikes and cars since his childhood. He said that after securing a job at a bank, he was not able to pursue his hobby which upset him. "Milk business was already running in the family. I decided to make my passion a profession and fulfill it along with the family business," Bhadana recalled. Bhadana said that once he had made up his mind, he left the well-paid job in the bank. He bought a Harley Davidson bike and started delivering milk to people's homes. While his hobby of riding high-end bikes was being fulfilled, the business kept flourishing. As the business grew manifold, Bhadana bought an Audi car worth around Rs 1 crore to transport milk. Bhadana, who is active on social media, uploaded a video showing him transporting milk on a bike. The video was warmly received by netizens on Instagram and has garnered over 3 million views making Bhadana an instant star. Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded in early trade on Friday amid continuous foreign fund inflows and a rally in global markets, but failed to carry forward the winning momentum and were later trading lower dragged lower by Axis Bank. The 30-share BSE benchmark gauge climbed 329.23 points to 80,130.66 in early trade. The NSE Nifty rallied 118.75 points to 24,365.45. Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded in early trade on Friday amid continuous foreign fund inflows and a rally in global markets, but failed to carry forward the winning momentum and were later trading lower dragged lower by Axis Bank.

Her body changes. Her care should too

The growing importance of women’s health physiotherapy

I HYDERABAD

A woman's body changes remarkably through every stage of life—from adolescence and menstruation to pregnancy, childbirth and menopause. Yet, many women continue to accept pain, pelvic discomfort, urinary leakage, weakness or changes in physical function as something they simply have to live with. They shouldn't. Women's health physiotherapy is increasingly helping change this perception by addressing physical concerns that are often overlooked, normalised or discussed only in private.

As a Women's Health Physiotherapist, I see women at very different stages of life, with very different concerns. Pregnancy, for example, places considerable physical demands on the body. As the body adapts to support the growing baby, women may experience back pain, pelvic girdle pain, changes in pos-

ture, reduced mobility and pelvic-floor concerns. Physiotherapy during pregnancy can help women manage these changes, maintain strength and mobility, develop pelvic-floor awareness, work on breathing and movement patterns, and prepare their bodies for childbirth.

The need for care does not end after delivery. Urinary leakage, for instance, is often treated as an inevitable consequence of childbirth or ageing. Pelvic pain may be endured for years. Pain during intercourse may remain unspoken. Conditions such as vaginismus and other pelvic-floor dysfunctions can have a significant impact not only on physical health but also on confidence, relationships and emotional well-being.

But women's health physiotherapy is not simply about treating a problem after it appears. It is also about education, prevention and helping

women understand their bodies. Knowing what is normal, recognising what is not, understanding how the body changes through different stages of life, and seeking help early can make a significant difference to long-term health and quality of life. She deserves to understand her body. She deserves to ask questions. And she deserves to seek help without hesitation or embarrassment. Because being a woman should never mean learning to live with pain.



Dr. Samhitha Morigadi (PT)
MPT – Women's Health
Medicover Women & Child
Hospitals



Rama Devi Kanneganti, President, Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of Andhra Pradesh (ALEAP) was awarded prestigious Dr. V. G. Patel Memorial Award - 2026 in the category of Entrepreneurship Trainer/Educator/ Mentor in Social Entrepreneurship. This award was announced by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad and is a testament to Rama Devi's dedication towards promoting and strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Personal AI Assistants to Reshape 2027?

Launching an agent will be as routine as launching a website was in the late 1990s or a mobile app in the early 2010s. The organizations that move quickly will capture efficiency advantages; those that lag will find themselves competing against rivals whose digital operations simply run with less human overhead.Identity itself is poised to evolve.

Today people are reached and recognized through phone numbers, email addresses, or social-media handles. In the emerging agentic environment, individuals and organizations will also be represented by their agents—persistent software entities that negotiate, schedule, transact, and communicate on their behalf within a broader network of other agents. The “agentic world” will become a parallel layer of interaction sitting above traditional apps and websites. This transition promises a genuine leap in aggregate productivity. The volume of routine screen-tapping and mouse-clicking is expected to decline sharply. Just as the rise of smartphones shifted primary interaction from desktop clicking to mobile tapping and ultimately reduced the relative importance of many desktop websites,

agents are projected to “eat” apps.

Users will increasingly state goals rather than navigate interfaces. The dominant mode of computing will shift from direct manipulation of software to supervision and exception-handling of autonomous systems.Two additional milestones are expected to crystallize around the same period. By the close of 2026, machine-generated code is widely anticipated to surpass human programmers in volume and, in many routine domains, in practical utility. Professional software development will not disappear, but the balance of labor will tilt decisively toward higher-level design, verification, and orchestration.

At the same time, the cumulative capabilities of these systems—persistent memory, multi-step planning, tool use, and reliable execution across real-world digital environments—will mark the beginning of society's practical journey toward artificial general intelligence. The agents of 2027 will not yet be AGI, still they will embody enough generality and autonomy that the conceptual distance to broader intelligence feels shorter and more tangible.Skeptics will rightly note the remaining hurdles: reliabil-

ity in open-ended settings, security against malicious agents, economic displacement in certain job categories, and the governance questions that accompany systems capable of acting with limited human oversight. Platform decisions about access, authentication, and liability will prove decisive.

Still the directional momentum appears strong. The combination of technical progress already visible in coding and voice, the competitive incentives facing Apple and Google, and the historical precedent of platform openings that unlocked mass adoption all point in the same direction.If the trajectory holds, 2026 will be remembered as the year personal agents crossed the threshold from impressive demos into daily infrastructure, and 2027 as the year AI usage finally reached the masses.

Computing will feel less like a collection of apps to be operated and more like an environment populated by capable collaborators. The screen will remain, but the primary interface will increasingly be intent rather than icons. In that sense, the agent era will not merely add another layer to existing digital life; it will redefine how people and organizations experience computing itself.

‘EPIC’ director opens up, expresses confidence of success

I HYDERABAD

Anand Deverakonda and Vaishnavi Chaitanya headline the upcoming youthful entertainer EPIC – FIRST SEMESTER, directed by Aditya Hasan. Known for the popular web series 90s, Hasan is making his silver-screen debut with the film, produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas. The film is scheduled to release on September 11.

Speaking to the media, Hasan revealed that he hails from Wanaparthi and developed an interest in cinema after completing his schooling. He later pursued higher education in Hyderabad and the UK before entering filmmaking. His acclaimed series 90s was inspired by his father's real-life experiences. According to Hasan, EPIC continues the world created in 90s, exploring the younger brother's journey, love and student life abroad.

Hasan admitted feeling initial pressure working with the



popular Baby pair but believes EPIC offers a fresh experience that moves beyond audience expectations. He also praised producer Naga Vamsi for trusting his vision and personally overseeing the project, including key creative decisions. The director revealed that EPIC will continue with EPIC – FINAL SEMESTER. Music director Hesham Abdul Wahab has composed the film's music, while acclaimed lyricist and singer Gorati Venkanna has contributed the song ‘Sanchaaram’. Hasan aims to explore diverse genres while delivering entertaining films with positive values and memorable stories.



Hyderabad based F&B entrepreneurs Rohith Vasireddy and Gopichand Cherukuri have launched Anaganaga, a 200-cover premium Telugu speciality restaurant in Hyderabad. The founders are now scaling the brand, with three new restaurants planned in the coming financial year and agreements for Visakhapatnam and Bengaluru in the final stages.



Support Congress to Defeat Modi...

He called the day a “dark day” for Telangana and linked the episode to what he termed a broader anti-Dalit mindset in the BRS, citing unfulfilled promises of a Dalit Chief Minister, land for Dalits and the Dalit Bandhu scheme, the removal of a Dalit Deputy Chief Minister, and alleged violence against Dalit protesters in Neredchla.

Meanwhile, Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy attributed the state's water scarcity to El Niño conditions and failures of the previous BRS government. Speaking in the Assembly lobbies, he said farmers were facing difficulties because of “Mr El Niño and Mr KCR.” Despite spending about Rs 1.81 lakh crore, key projects such as Kalwakurthy, Nettampadu, Koilsagar, Bheema and the SLBC tunnel remained in-

complete. He criticised the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, on which around Rs 27,500 crore was spent without creating the required irrigation potential, and questioned the shifting of its source from Jurala to Srisailem. Uttam said the Congress government had finalised the water source for the Dindi project and sanctioned about Rs 1,800 crore. On Kaleshwaram, he questioned the BRS's planned mobilisation given the structural damage at Medigadda barrage and noted that the government was undertaking investigations with national and international experts while conserving reservoir stocks. He rejected claims of compromise on Telangana's water interests, affirming that the state had utilised its Krishna share and would continue pursuing entitlements before tribunals and the Krishna River Management Board.

Yogi Adityanath visits Nellore, lauds Swarna Bharat Trust’s service

I AMARAVATI

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday visited Nellore district to participate as the Chief Guest at the silver jubilee celebrations of the Swarna Bharat Trust, which has completed 25 years of service in rural skill development and healthcare. Yogi arrived at the helipad set up at the Akshara Vidyalaya campus in Venkatachalam, where he was received by state Ministers Dr P. Narayana and Y. Satya Kumar, along with Swarna Bharat Trust Managing Trustee Deepa Venkat, Harshavardhan, MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy, state BJP President PVN Madhav, and senior district officials.

During his visit, Yogi inspected the Soma Technical Training Centre on the Akshara Vidyalaya campus and interacted with young men and women undergoing skill training. He enquired about the technical courses being offered, their training experience and employment opportunities after completion. The



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister appreciated the services being provided by the Swarna Bharat Trust and its efforts to create employment opportunities for rural youth through skill development and education. He also watched a skating demonstration by students at the campus.

The Swarna Bharat Trust, established in 2001 under the inspiration of former Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, has completed 25 years of service, focusing on free skill training for rural youth and healthcare initiatives. As part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations, Yogi is scheduled to inspect other service activities being undertaken by the Trust before attending the main program at Praja Mandiram, where he will address the gathering as Chief Guest.

El Niño, KCR's failures behind...

Rejecting allegations that the Congress was compromising Telangana's water interests, Uttam said the State had utilised its due Krishna water share during the last three water years. He said Telangana would continue pursuing its Krishna and Godavari entitlements before tribunals, the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) and other competent forums.

“We are fighting far more effectively for Telangana's rights over Krishna and Godavari waters. There will be no compromise on the State's interests,” he said.

Elon Musk predicts “Age ...

Money itself may become less important over time if almost everything becomes cheap and plentiful.Musk describes this future as mostly positive and exciting, though he notes that big changes always carry risks. His core message is that the next decade will look very different from the past: AI and robots will take over most productive work, freeing humans from the need to labour for survival while creating widespread abundance.



ICFAI Law School’s ‘Moot Court Competition’ concludes

I HYDERABAD

The 3-day N J Yasaswy Memorial 11th Moot Court Competition, 2026 organized by ICFAI Law School Hyderabad concluded on Sunday. The valedictory ceremony was attended by the Guest of Honor, Justice Gadi Praveen Kumar, Judge, High Court for the State of Telangana and the Chief Guest, Justice Suddala Chalapati Rao, Judge, High Court for the State of Telangana.

Justice Gadi Praveen Kumar dwelt upon the importance of Part IV of the Constitution - the Directive Principles of State Policy - which lays down the guiding principles for achieving social and economic justice and strengthening the foundations of a welfare-

oriented society. Justice Suddala Chalapati Rao highlighted on the importance of gender equality and its recognition since ancient times. He observed that law students today enjoy far greater opportunities for their integral development.

The winner of the competition was Parul Institute of Law, Parul University and the runner-up was SVKM NMIMS, School of Law, Bengaluru. Prof. Pujari Ravisekhara Raju, Director, ICFAI Law School reflected upon the three-day competition. The competition is organized annually in honor of the founder, late N. J. Yasaswy, with the aim of fostering legal knowledge, research acumen and leadership among law students.

enGen Global donates surgical equipment to Seva Bharathi hospital

I HYDERABAD

enGen Global, an Integrated Healthcare Global Capability Centre, has donated advanced orthopaedic and laparoscopic surgical equipments to Seva Bharathi LCH Greenlands Trust – Dr Ishwar Chander Charitable Hospital at Sitarambagh under its Corporate Social Responsibility program, enGen Serve. The equipment was handed over at a program held at Seva Bharathi Hospital, Sitarambagh, in the presence of enGen CHRO Shrinivas Ayyagari, Seva Bharathi Hospital Medical Director Dr. Veda Prakash, Seva Bharathi State Secretary Subramanyam and Vidya Bhushan, representing the Lions Club.

Dr. Veda Prakash, Seva Bharathi Hospital Medical Director, said the equipment is expected to strengthen the

hospital's surgical capacity and help it provide quality surgical care to underserved families at an affordable cost. The orthopaedic equipment will support arthroscopic surgeries, ligament-tear repairs and other procedures. The laparoscopic equipment will enable minimally invasive surgeries, including appendix and gall-bladder operations.

Arvind Srinivasan, CFO and Head of enGen Serve, mentioned that access to quality healthcare should not be determined by a family's ability to pay. “Through enGen Serve, we are proud to help make essential surgical care more accessible and affordable,” he said. Shrinivas Ayyagari, CHRO, enGen, said that their purpose extends beyond business to creating meaningful impact in the communities they serve.

Money, Meaning and Autonomy Drive Gen Z, Alpha

Authenticity matters:

They distrust greenwashing, nepotism and empty corporate slogans. Family ties remain strong compared with Western counterparts — close-knit relationships and home meals still hold value — even as they gently shift from pure duty-driven choices toward fulfillment. Digital fluency is near-universal. High adoption of generative AI at work is reported, with most seeing it as a time-saver and productivity booster rather than a pure threat, though job displacement concerns linger.

Broader anxieties shape their outlook. Unemployment and job quality top concerns in multiple polls. Many doubt that hard work and merit alone guarantee advancement, citing connections, privilege or simply too few opportunities. Livelihood issues dominate over others for a majority. Some express openness to working abroad for better salaries and prospects, though many still see India as home.

Climate awareness and ethical consumption also feature, influencing preferences for sustainable brands and second-hand markets.Gener-

ation Alpha, still largely under 16, shows distinct but related drivers. Structured days filled with school, tuition and homework leave limited free time, so digital spaces — phones, gaming, short-form content — become vital pockets of autonomy and identity, according to a Rukam Capital study. They are not simply “screen-addicted”; technology offers the rare realm not fully controlled by adults.

Peer validation often matters more than influencers for actual decisions. Curiosity about earning money is notable: around 70 per cent explore ways to earn through

chores, creative work or digital activities. Many accompany parents on online shopping and influence purchases. Food carries emotional weight — flavour, texture and celebration matter deeply for happiness, sometimes more than pure nutrition. Aspirations lean toward content creation for some, with surveys noting interest in becoming social media influencers. Raised by purpose-oriented millennial parents, they absorb values around sustainability and ethics, though they demand tangible proof over slogans.

Recent student protests in some states over school infra-

structure and education quality hint at an early demand for better systems. These motivations carry wide implications. Employers face pressure to offer competitive pay alongside flexibility, genuine purpose, upskilling and supportive cultures or risk high turnover. Educators confront calls for practical skills, quality and reduced pressure. Brands targeting young consumers must prioritise authenticity, local resonance, value and ethical credentials.

Policy-makers note that job creation, skill-aligned opportunities and mental health support remain urgent amid

India's demographic advantage.Gen Z and Gen Alpha are not rejecting ambition. They are redefining it on more holistic terms: financial foundations paired with meaning, balance, continuous growth and personal agency. In a nation of vast scale and rapid change, their preferences will shape workplaces, markets, families and the broader social fabric for decades. As one Deloitte India executive observed, these generations are not merely adapting to the future of work — they are actively shaping it. The challenge for institutions is to meet them there.