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WEATHER	
Sunrise	7:13 AM
Sunset	5:56 PM
Moonrise	4:33 AM
Moonset	2:37 PM
Today's Prediction	
Maximum	22°C
Minimum	7°C
Tomorrow's Prediction	
Maximum	21°C
Minimum	7°C

New Delhi
President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday advocated for the "one nation, one election" initiative, asserting it has the potential to redefine "good governance" in the country by promoting consistency in governance, preventing policy paralysis, mitigating resource diversion, and alleviating financial burdens on the state.

In her address to the nation ahead of the 76th Republic Day, she emphasised the government's ongoing efforts to "eliminate remnants of a colonial mindset that have lingered in the country for decades" and cited the replacement of the British-era criminal laws with three new modern laws.

"We have been witnessing concerted efforts to change that mindset... Reforms of such magnitude require an audacity of vision," she said.

Highlighting the significance of the proposed Bill aimed at synchronising election sched-



ules across the country, Murmu noted, "The 'one nation one election' plan can offer numerous benefits, including enhanced governance and reduced financial strain." In discussing legal reforms, she pointed out the need to replace the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Indian Evidence Act with new laws reflective of Indian traditions.

She mentioned the introduction of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, which prioritise the delivery of justice over mere punishment and place a strong

emphasis on addressing crimes against women and children.

hunger. However, we maintained a belief in ourselves and created conditions for growth," she said.

Noting the contributions of farmers and labourers, she said India's economy now plays a pivotal role in global economic trends, asserting that this transformation is rooted in the framework established by the Constitution.

The President also pointed to the persistently high economic growth rate in recent years, which has generated job opportunities, increased income for farmers and labourers, and lifted many out of poverty.

She underscored the importance of inclusive growth and the government's commitment to welfare, making basic necessities such as housing and access to clean drinking water entitlements for citizens.

Efforts to support marginalised communities, particularly those belonging to Scheduled

India, Indonesia decide to expand defence, trade ties



New Delhi
HIGHLIGHT

India and Indonesia on Saturday agreed to give a new momentum to the overall bilateral ties and especially concurred on working jointly in the areas of defence manufacturing and supply chains, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto for wide-ranging talks.

Subianto, on a three-day visit to India, will be the chief guest at the Republic-Day celebrations at Kartavya Path on Sunday.

In his media statement following the talks, Modi described Indonesia as an "important partner" of India in the 10-nation ASEAN bloc as well as in the Indo-Pacific, noting that both countries are

Both countries agree to jointly counter terrorism, radicalisation committed to a rules-based order in the region.

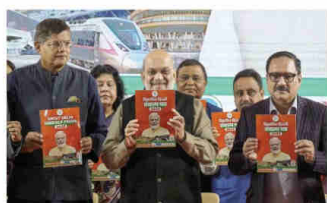
"We agree that the freedom of navigation should be ensured in line with international law," Modi said amid growing global concerns over China's increasing military muscle-flexing in the Indo-Pacific region.

"We held extensive discussions on various aspects of our bilateral ties," the prime minister said, adding that India and Indonesia have agreed to work jointly on defence manufacturing and supply chains.

Agency

BJP promises to clean Yamuna in 3 yrs, welfare schemes for gig workers and labourers

New Delhi
With less than two weeks left for the Delhi Assembly polls, senior BJP leader Amit Shah on Saturday promised to clean Yamuna in three years, provide complete ownership rights in 1,700 unauthorised colonies, and welfare measures for gig workers and labourers.



Shah slammed AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal, accusing him of "lying" and not fulfilling his promises and asserted that "getting rid of liars and betrayers" is the biggest poll issue in the national capital.

The BJP manifesto also promised free travel of up to Rs 4,000 annually for needy students in Delhi Metro under the National Common

Mobility Card scheme. The Union minister, who released the final part of BJP's 'Sankalp Patra' for the February 5 Delhi polls, said people living in 1,700 unauthorised colonies will get full ownership rights of properties, which will pave the way for sale, purchase and construction if the BJP comes to power.

He also reiterated that the BJP will not stop any ongoing welfare measures for the poor in Delhi.

The BJP leader promised various new schemes and welfare measures for the gig workers and labourers. The BJP will form a gig workers welfare board and provide Rs 10 lakh insurance and Rs 5 lakh accident cover, he said.

Agency

Uttarakhand set to become first state to implement UCC on Jan 27

Dehradun
Uttarakhand is set to become the first state in India to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) on January 27, just a day before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to the state. The announcement marks a significant step towards the state government's vision of ensuring equality and justice for all citizens, regardless of their religion, gender, or ethnicity.



In his Republic Day address, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami extended his greetings to the people of the state and

highlighted the government's preparation for the UCC rollout. He emphasized that the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code would be a milestone in the state's governance, ensuring a common legal framework for all citizens.

"The UCC portal will

be launched at 12:30 pm on January 27 at the Secretariat. Uttarakhand will be the first state in independent India to implement UCC," said Shailesh Bagoli, CM Dhami's secretary, according.

The move to enforce the UCC in Uttarakhand comes as part of the state government's commitment to ensuring social justice and addressing long-standing issues of inequality and discrimination. The UCC is expected to provide a common set of laws governing personal matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption, among others. Agency

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President Murmu bats for 'one nation, one election'

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Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and Other Backward Classes (OBC), were also highlighted. Murmu mentioned various initiatives, including pre-matric and post-matric scholarships, national fellowships, and dedicated schemes aimed at the socio-economic development of these communities, such as the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyudaya Yojana and the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan.

The President's address underscored the government's commitment to fostering inclusive growth and redefining governance standards in the country, creating a vision for a more equitable and prosperous future for all citizens.

She emphasised that this occasion is a collective celebration of joy and pride for all citizens and remarked that the 75 years may seem like a brief moment in the life of a nation, it has been a significant period for India, marked by the revival of its long-dormant spirit and its journey to reclaim its rightful status among the world's civilisations.

Reflecting on India's historical journey, she urged citizens to remember the brave souls who sacrificed their lives for the nation's freedom, highlighting the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, whose contributions to the freedom movement are now receiving due recognition.

The President praised the early 20th-century freedom fighters for uniting the nation in a well-organised independence movement and credited iconic figures like Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, and Babasaheb Ambedkar for helping India rediscover its democratic values.

"Justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity are not just modern concepts; they have always been integral to our civilisational heritage," she asserted, noting that skeptics of the Constitution's future were proven wrong.

Murmu highlighted the inclusive nature of the Constituent Assembly, which represented diverse communities across the nation, including 15 women members who played pivotal roles in shaping the country's democratic framework.

"When women's equality was a distant goal in many parts of the world, Indian women were actively engaged in the nation's destiny," she said.

The Constitution, according to the President, has evolved into a living document that serves as the foundation of India's collective identity and has guided the nation's progress over the past 75 years.

Shifting focus to present-day advancements, she highlighted the government's emphasis on physical infrastructure development, which has laid the groundwork for sustained growth.

She commended the innovative use of technology in finance, noting that digital payment systems and direct benefit transfers have enhanced inclusion and transparency in the economy.

India's democracy unique example for modern world: Prez

New Delhi President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday said India's democracy is a unique example for the modern world and many countries are learning from our election system and management.

Addressing the 15th National Voters' Day Celebrations, she said it is a matter of pride for all of us that our democracy is not only the oldest democracy in the world but is also the largest, diverse, young, inclusive and sensitive democracy in the world.

"India's democracy is a unique example for the modern world. Many countries of the world are learning from our election system and management," she said.

While congratulating the Election Commission (EC) on completion of 75 years of its service, the President lauded the role played by it over the years in conducting 18

Dabur Khajurprash ropes in Olympic Medalist Manu Bhaker as the Brand Face, launches new TVC

New Delhi

The Campaign aims to raise awareness on Iron Deficiency in Indian Women and how Dabur Khajurprash can help fight iron deficiency, support healthy haemoglobin levels and build immunity.

New Delhi: Dabur Khajurprash, from the house of Dabur India, has announced to rope in Star Shooter and Double Olympic Medalist Ms Manu Bhaker as its Brand Ambassador.

Dabur Khajurprash also launched an Integrated Media Campaign to raise awareness about the importance of Dabur Khajurprash and how it helps fight iron deficiency, supports healthy haemoglobin levels and helps build immunity in Indian Women.

Mr. Rajeev John, Executive Vice President, Dabur India Ltd said, "We are very excited to partner with Star Shooter and Double Olympic Medalist Ms Manu Bhaker as the brand ambassador of Dabur Khajurprash and welcome

Nicktoons Motu and Patlu Join with BSF to Celebrate R-Day at Attari-Wagah Border

New Delhi

Republic Day is a time to celebrate the values of equality and liberty in the Constitution of India that make our nation so special.

Nick India celebrated the day this year by partnering with the Border Security Force (BSF) at the iconic Attari-Wagah Border.

True to their tradition of engaging children in meaningful ways, Nick India brought kids from FTE School of Round Table India and their favourite Nicktoons, Motu and Patlu, to experience a day filled with pride and joy alongside our brave jawans.

The day started with the beloved Motu and Patlu, known for their humour and playful charm cheering with the crowd. Euphoria filled the air with infectious energy. The National Flag was hoisted after the ceremony followed by the kids from FTE School of Round Table



Lok Sabha elections and over 400 Assembly Elections successfully.

Pointing out that the impressive glimpse of our inclusive democracy is visible in elections, she said the increasing participation of women in elections is an important sign of the overall development of our society and country.

"The EC has made special efforts to facilitate the voting process for senior voters above 85 years of age, differently-abled voters and tribal voters living in



her to the Dabur Family. We are confident that this association will further strengthen the brand and help us build a better connect with our consumers. Manu Bhaker's vibrant persona, pan-India appeal, confident attitude coupled with her strength, performance and self-made career, makes her a great fit for our brand."

The event saw over 40

remote areas. In this way, the Election Commission has set a good example of inclusive and sensitive election management," she said.

The President said that the ideals and responsibilities associated with voting are the main

Rotary Club of Shahdara organised MSME event at Film City, Noida

■ We are committed to support the growth of MSMEs: Rotarian Ashok Jha

Noida

Rotary Club of Shahdara organised an MSME event at Film City, Noida. It was inaugurated by Chief Guest Gopal Krishan Agarwal, eminent economist and National Spokesperson of Bhartiya Janta Party and Guest of Honour Dr. R K Bharti, Director, MSME DFO, Ministry of MSME, Govt of India. More than 200 entrepreneurs, industry leaders and stakeholders attended the event.

Rotary Club Shahdara President, Rotarian Sunil Agarwal, in his speech emphasised the importance of MSMEs and said that they play a vital role in economic growth and job creation.

Event Chairperson, Rotarian Ashok Jha, in his welcome address said, "We are committed to supporting the growth and development of MSMEs and this event is a testimony to our efforts."

The event saw over 40



MSMEs being felicitated for their outstanding contribution in innovative products and services. The event also provided entrepreneurs a platform for networking with potential investors, partners and customers.

From the club representatives, Chairman Rotarian CA Sunil Agarwal, Chairperson Rotarian Ashok Jha, Foundation Chair Club Rotarian Mukesh Singhal, Rotarian Surendra Kumar Gambhir, Rotarian Dilip Hart, Rotarian Sub-

hash Gupta, Rotarian Advocate Pankaj Walia, Rotarian Ankur Sangal, Rotarian Puneet Sakhuja, Rotarian Dheeraj Verma, Rotarian Aman Batra, Rotarian Archana Agarwal and Rotarian Meenu Singhal believe, MSMEs are an integral part of society, fostering employment, entrepreneurship and innovation. However, they face significant challenges in accessing resources, navigating policies and scaling up operations. Through

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday said India's democracy is a unique example for the modern world and many countries of the world are learning from our election system and management.

management, security management, voter education, and inclusivity. The awards recognise exceptional contributions across multiple categories in election management for the 2024 Lok Sabha and Assembly elections held in 2024.

In his address, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar praised the sagacity and intelligence of Indian voters and affirmed that they remain the ultimate custodians of the nation's democracy.

Commenting the dedication of election officials, he expressed confidence that India's democracy would remain resilient, safeguarding it from any attempts to undermine it.

He also urged citizens, particularly the youth and urban voters, to actively participate in shaping the nation's future through the electoral process.

His remarks came on a day the opposition Congress hit out at the EC, saying its "self-congratulation" on the occasion would not obscure the fact that the poll panel's functioning had made a "mockery" of the Constitution and insulted the voters.

Kumar also flagged the "dangerous trend" all over the world of misinformation and fake narratives, calling them the single-biggest threat to democratic processes worldwide.

Addressing the nation on the eve of the 76th Republic Day, she said the results of increased investment and efforts by the government in the education sector have been more than encouraging.

"It is, after all, our young generation that is going to shape the India of tomorrow. Education, in turn, shapes these young minds. Therefore, the government has increased its investment in education and made every effort to improve every parameter related to this sector. The results so far are more than encouraging," she said.

"The last decade has transformed education in terms of quality of learning, physical infrastructure and digital inclusion. For the medium of instruction, the regional languages are promoted at more levels. It is not surprising that there has been a notable improvement in students' performance," Murmu added.

Public Notice

It is informed to public at large that my client Sh. Ramesh Singh, S/o Sh. Prithvi Singh R/o house no. 60 sector 19 Dwarka, Ambernath village, South West Delhi, Delhi-110075 has deceased. He has a son namely Kapil Shekawat along with his wife Pooja Shekawat and their legal heirs from all his movable and immovable properties whatsoever and severed all his relations with them because they are out of control of my client due to their interable behavior and habits. Any dealing with them may do so at his/her own risk and consequences. My client and his family members will have no concern for any such act or dealing.

Ankur Yadav and Associates (DS871/2023), office at - Flat no. - 48, Shohred Bhagat Singh Apt., Pocket - 3, Sector - 13, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075.

Staff Reporter

New Delhi:

On 15th National Voters' Day, Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu awarded the Best Electoral Practices Award 2024-25 to Indian Railways for its role in voter education and electoral participation.

The award was received by Railway Board Chairman and CEO Satish Kumar.

Indian Railways was recognized for its infrastructure and partnership with the Election Commission of India to enhance voter awareness.

The railways used its Rail Display Network (RDN) to disseminate voter helpline details, pre-recorded announcements at stations, and operated a special train called the SVEEP Express in the Kashmir Valley. Social media campaigns with hashtags like #ChunavKaParv and #DeshKaGary promoted participation.

The railways also facilitated the transportation of over 3,74,000 para-military personnel through 383 trains across the nation for

fair elections. National Voters' Day (NVD) is celebrated annually to encourage voter enrolment and informed participation in the electoral process.

The National Electoral Awards 2024-25 recognize innovation, excellence, and proficiency in election processes, honoring contributions made by electoral machinery, government departments, agencies, PSUs, CSOs, and media. State-level awards are also presented at respective state headquarters.

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Avoid fake narratives, disruptive campaign: EC

New Delhi

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Saturday requested political parties to avoid "disruptive campaigning" and "fake narratives", saying it might cause disillusionment among youngsters regarding the electoral process.

He was addressing the 15th National Voters' Day event here in the presence of President Droupadi Murmu, Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and representatives of political parties.

At the same time, CEC Kumar assured political parties that the Election Commission would respond in writing to concerns flagged by them on the electoral process and the suggestions made by them to improve the system.

His remarks came on a day the opposition Congress hit out at the EC, saying its "self-congratulation" on the occasion would not obscure the fact that the poll panel's functioning had made a "mockery" of the Constitution and insulted the voters.

Kumar also flagged the "dangerous trend" all over the world of misinformation and fake narratives, calling them the single-biggest threat to democratic processes worldwide.

Education system transformed in last decade: President

New Delhi:

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday said the country's education system has been transformed in the last decade in terms of quality of learning, physical infrastructure and digital inclusion.

Addressing the nation on the eve of the 76th Republic Day, she said the results of increased investment and efforts by the government in the education sector have been more than encouraging.

"It is, after all, our young generation that is going to shape the India of tomorrow. Education, in turn, shapes these young minds. Therefore, the government has increased its investment in education and made every effort to improve every parameter related to this sector. The results so far are more than encouraging," she said.

"The last decade has transformed education in terms of quality of learning, physical infrastructure and digital inclusion. For the medium of instruction, the regional languages are promoted at more levels. It is not surprising that there has been a notable improvement in students' performance," Murmu added.

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Atishi unfurls national flag on R-Day eve, highlights govt's achievements

■ Delhi Chief Minister Atishi on Saturday unfurled the national flag during the government's Republic Day celebrations at the Chhatrasal Stadium.

New Delhi
On the eve of Republic Day, Chief Minister Atishi on Saturday unfurled the national flag at a ceremony organized by the Delhi government where she highlighted her government's key initiatives in areas such as education, healthcare, infrastructure, and women's empowerment.



In her address, she spoke about the efforts made by the Delhi government to improve the quality of life for its residents. She emphasized that Delhi is the only state in the country that allocates 25 per cent of its budget to education. "Children from government schools, once deprived of opportunities, are now entering premier institutions like IITs and AIIMS," she stated.

Highlighting healthcare advancements, the CM said the government provides free medical services, with no cost borne by patients for treatments. She also mentioned the establishment of Mohalla Clinics to make healthcare more accessible. Moreover, she also lauded the round the clock electricity supply in the city. Giving the details about the infrastructure advancements, she claimed that 38 flyovers have been built over the last decade and that the metro network has expanded to 450 kilometers, enhancing connectivity across the city.

Women's empowerment was another focal point of her speech. She noted that free bus travel for women has benefited 11 lakh women daily, increasing their participation in the workforce and educational opportunities. Reflecting on the vision of freedom fighters and Babasaheb Ambedkar, Atishi urged citizens to uphold democratic values and work collectively for progress. The CM emphasized the importance of empowering women, ensuring employment opportunities for youth, and providing quality healthcare for senior citizens.

Six Nigerian nationals detained in Delhi for overstaying visas

New Delhi
In view of the assembly elections in Delhi, the police have crackdown on the foreign nationals staying illegally in the national capital that includes seven Bangladeshi and six Nigerian nationals, it said on Saturday.



The illegally staying Bangladeshi nationals were nabbed from the central district while the Nigerians were nabbed from the South East district. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) M Harshvardhan said, "So far this year, we have identified 16 Bangladeshi immigrants in the city who were overstaying after the expiry of their visas. They have been sent to a detention centre in Inderlok for deportation under the law of the land."

Moreover, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South East) Ravi Kumar Singh said, based on specific information, ANS South East conducted a raid at a building located in the Sunlight Colony area from where six Nigerian nationals, including two women, were found to be overstaying after expiry of their visa for the last four years. These individuals had been living secretly in Delhi and were produced before FRRO and were sent to a detention centre for deportation.

Will fix Delhi's sewerage issues in 5 yrs if AAP re-elected: Kejriwal

New Delhi
AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday vowed to eliminate Delhi's sewer issues, and announced a comprehensive plan to overhaul the capital's sewer lines in the coming five years if AAP is re-elected to power.

With claims of making progress on this front during the past decade, the AAP chief promised the repair of all sewer lines and the replacement of aging pipelines on a war footing across the city.

Assuring residents of swift action, he urged them not to panic and pledged to address pending issues rapidly after returning to power.

Addressing a virtual press conference on Saturday, the former Delhi Chief Minister stated, "When our government was formed for the first time in 2015, we inherited several problems, one of the major ones being the issue of sewer systems. There are 1,792 unauthorized colonies in Delhi. Before 2015, no developmental work was allowed in these colonies due to orders from the Supreme Court and the Central government. We overcame all these hurdles and started development work in all the unauthorized colonies," he claimed. According to him, the unauthorized colonies had no sewer pipelines, so all the sewage used to flow through drains and streets, making people's lives miserable and that, after coming to power it was the AAP government which has over the past 10 years, laid sewer pipelines on a large scale in almost all these colonies. He further added that after laying the pipelines, the government is now working on connecting every household to the sewer system.

Faridabad Crime Branch arrested accused involved in killing minor girl in Dabua Colony

Sandeep Chauhan Faridabad

The Crime Branch DLF team arrested the accused in the case of minor girl murder in Dabua Colony. On January 18, Mamta resident Dabua Colony had lodged a complaint regarding the murder of her minor girl in Dabua police station. A case was registered under murder sections in Dabua police station and investigation was taken up.



On the direction of Police Commissioner Satendra Kumar Gupta, a team of crime branch under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner of Police Crime Masood Ahmed, Crime Branch DLF arrested the accused Pawan from Palwal.

secretly talk to the victim's daughter and lured his daughter and took her away with the intention of marriage, about which a case was registered in Dabua police station in April 2024. Holding a grudge in this case, Pawan killed the complainant's daughter," said police spokesperson Aman.

Accused Pawan used to

"In the case of the year

20 Delhi cops awarded Republic Day medals for exemplary service

New Delhi

Twenty officers of the Delhi police have been conferred with medals for their exceptional service and dedication to duty on the eve of Republic Day. Among the officers, three - additional commissioner of police Asif Mohammad Ali, ACP Sanjay Dutt and ACP Som Nath Paruthi - were awarded the President's Medal for Distinguished Service, official said.

ACP Asif Mohammad Ali joined the Delhi police as an assistant commissioner in SHIPS cadre in 1994 and is presently posted as joint director, Delhi Police Academy. During his tenure, around 75,000 Delhi police personnel, and other stakeholders have been trained in New Criminal Laws. Under his leadership, initiatives for enhanced capacity building and skill development through MOUs with reputed institutions like Rashtriya Raksha University, have been undertaken. The officer was Nominated by Delhi commissioner of police to prepare a road map for capacity building of Delhi police commandos unit in consultation with elite commando forces of India. ACP Sanjay Dutt had joined the Delhi Police in 1989 as a sub-inspector (Executive) and was posted at various police stations in South-West, New Delhi districts. He played a pivotal role in the neutralisation and arrest of a number of terrorists of Lashkar-e-Tayiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Hizbul-Mujahideen and various gangsters, drug traffickers, arms traffickers, and dreaded criminals during his tenure at the Special Cell.

North West District Admin administered an oath to voters on National Voter's Day



Hemant Kumar New Delhi

All agencies are actively preparing for the upcoming Delhi assembly elections, conducting awareness programs to ensure maximum voter turnout. The North West District Administration of Delhi has administered an oath to voters on National Voter's Day, marking the 15th National Voter's Day across the country. The Election Commission

organized various programs to raise awareness about voting. A colorful cultural program was held at the Kanjhawala DM Office in Delhi, featuring Arjun Awardees Sarita Mor, former Kho-kho team captain Nasreen Sheikh, and Arjun Awardees Nasreen Sheikh as chief guests. The program entertained attendees while also educating them about voting rights and the importance of celebrating Republic Day.

3 held for booking car on Zoom app & sold car before absconding

Amar Saini Noida

Three miscreants have been arrested by Noida Biskh police station for allegedly booking cars through the Zoom app and selling them after absconding, said the police on Saturday.



Mahindra Thar, a car registered in the victim's wife's name, was found in the possession of the miscreants, they said. A victim, resident of Supertech Ecovillage-1 reported a car being booked through the app in the name of Suryakant on 23 December, 2024 but the car was taken away by Jatini. He rents the car through Zoom app. The victim's complaint

led to an investigation, which revealed the gang used to book and sell cars through the app.

covered from their possession. The arrested miscreants have previously been involved in a similar car theft case in Delhi. A case is currently registered against them in Delhi, and the police are investigating the criminal history of the accused," said DCP Shakti Mohan Awasthi.

BJP leader immerses Kejriwal's effigy in Yamuna

New Delhi

BJP candidate from New Delhi Parvesh Verma immersed an effigy of former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal in the murky water of the Yamuna over his unfulfilled promise to clean the river so that people could take a dip in it.



Kejriwal's failure to fulfill his promise of cleaning the Yamuna has become evident, Verma told reporters at the riverbank near ITO. "Despite having 11 long years of power and spending Rs 8,000 crore, the AAP government failed to deliver on its promise of cleaning the Yamuna. This is the biggest betrayal with the people of Delhi," he said.

The AAP supremo in his campaigns for the Delhi Assembly polls admitted that he could not fulfil the promise of cleaning the Yamuna. Now, he has assured people that the river will be cleaned in the next two-three years after AAP comes back to power in Delhi.

Kejriwal's tenure as chief minister has been limited to "hollow promises and false claims," Verma charged and accused the AAP convener of lacking the intent and capability to clean the Yamuna. "This act of immersing his effigy in the Yamuna is a reminder to the people that it is time to free Delhi from deceitful promises," Verma said.

This demonstration aims to highlight the "failures" of Kejriwal and AAP government and to send a clear message that the problems of Delhi will remain unresolved as long as the politics of "lies and propaganda" continues, he added.

HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY
26th JANUARY

"Heartfelt greetings to all the residents of Delhi on 76th Republic Day! Let's unite to strengthen democracy and contribute to the nation's progress. Honour the Constitution and fulfill our duties as responsible citizens."
Jai Hind!

Directorate of Information and Publicity, Govt. of NCT of Delhi

Farmer's Movement and the possibility of a legal Guarantee on MSP



By Prof. Ripudaman

The Farmers' agitation is not coming to an end. Farmers are adamant on the demand for a legal guarantee on MSP. In view of this deadlock, it has become necessary that the possibilities of giving a legal guarantee on MSP should be seriously considered upon.

The decision of 101 farmers to march to Delhi on foot from Shambhu border on 21st January has been postioned by the United Kisan Morcha. After the proposal for a meeting from the Central Government. Jagjit Singh Dalwadi has also agreed to take medical help. The health of farmer leader Jagjit Singh who was on a hunger strike for his demands, was deteriorating day by day. Therefore, to break the deadlock, the government proposed to hold talks with the farmers, which the farmers accepted wholeheartedly. In 2020, the BJP government had announced the implementation of three agricultural laws and even after clarifying the benefits of the said agricultural law on many forums, the farmers continued to agitate and finally the government announced the withdrawal of the three agricultural laws. According to the Agricultural Produce Trade and Commerce Act, farmers could sell their crops at any place of their choice. Any authorized trader could buy crops from farmers at a fixed price. The government had also exempted this trade of agricultural products from market tax imposed by the states. This Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Price Assurance and Agricultural Services Act made provision for contract farming with farmers selling their crops freely in the market. Apart from this, if the farmer's crop is destroyed due to weather

or any other reason, the contracting firm was responsible for compensating the loss of the crop. But the farmers did not find this argument appropriate, they felt that the firms entering into contracts with the new law, would grab their land and the government would gradually sideline the MSP and stand in favour of the industrialists. In reality the government wanted to open the doors for new investment in the agriculture sector through the new agricultural law so that the income of the farmers could increase rapidly. We all know that for the past several years, farmers have been suffering due to monsoon bagaries, low yield, unstable market and lack of resources. But due to this difficulty, many farmers have been forced to commit suicide. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, from 1955 till now (2022), 206485 farmers have committed suicide. According to NABARD Bank, the farmers of the country have a debt of Rs. 21 lakh crore. Due to these problems, farmer organizations started a large scale movement in 2020. The main demand of the farmers is regarding the legal guarantee of MSP (Minimum Support Price). Farmers believe that Prime Minister Shri Modi's announcement on the New Year to continue crop insurance and subsidy on fertilizers ignoring MSP. In addition, there is no mention of MSP in the draft of

Agricultural Marketing for the coming years' released recently by the government. It is known that the government announces MSP for 23 crops every year. But when the price of the crop falls below the price declared in MSP, there is no legal guarantee, of MSP. In fact, MSP was made to keep the price of important agricultural products stable. Its purpose is to protect the prices of farmers' products from instability (fluctuation). But the government feels that if it makes MSP legally binding, then it will have to purchase every agricultural product of the farmers at the price declared in MSP, which is probably not possible for the government. The basic principle of legally binding MSP is very simple, farmers should have the right to get a fair statutory price for their produce and the state should have the responsibility to ensure this to the farmers. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the state to ensure that farmers get the statutory price for their produce and not to buy the produce of the farmers. Similarly, farmers have the right to get the statutory price for their produce, no matter from whom they get this price. Now the time has come

the difference between MSP and average market price to the farmers. But if the government is able to implement the first two measures effectively, then the government will not need to pay the difference between MSP and average price. Government intervention will be necessary only when the market price of a produce falls below MSP. Timely market intervention and all other measures mentioned above can ensure that the market price will automatically be close to MSP and thus the government will incur very nominal loss. At current rates, the cost of a legally guaranteed MSP will be only about 0.5 to 0.6 per cent of the Union Budget, as last year, as per government data, the total loss below the fixed MSP was only Rs. 20070 crore. Considering the agricultural culture prevailing in the country and the additional purchasing power in the hands of farmers, which will lead to positive growth of the economy, this expenditure will be a leading step in improving the condition of farmers, hence the possibility of implementing a legal guarantee on MSP should be thoroughly considered.

(The author is a Professor of economics and former regional higher education officer. He can be reached out at: ripudaman.singh.etw@gmail.com)

Breaking Time Sudoku

What to do
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digit 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only correct solution.

	7			3				
			6	8	7			9
8			2				3	
2					6			5
1	9						8	4
5			4					9
		8			9			2
	6		1	2	4			
					5			6

Solution, Sudoku

7	4	6	5	8	1	9	3	2
8	2	9	4	6	3	7	1	5
3	5	1	2	7	9	6	8	4
6	7	4	1	3	5	2	9	8
9	8	5	6	2	4	1	7	3
1	3	2	7	9	8	5	4	6
2	1	8	9	4	6	3	5	7
4	9	7	3	5	2	8	6	1
5	6	3	8	1	7	4	2	9

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This is a classroom that teaches you lessons that you need to learn, conducts exam to check your learning, and determines whether you are ready to pass. The lessons come in the form of experiences that you go through, prodding you to learn and grow. As you keep growing, you will be ready for the exam which will approach you at the last moment of your life. What you do with that moment is what will determine whether you pass or fail in the exam. The tricky part is that this moment can come any moment to anyone unannounced, whether one is in the middle of a city, in the thick of a jungle, or in the depths of an ocean. Hence, it is necessary that you are always ready.



Sadguru Sri Madhusudan Sai



What kind of preparation does it take to be ready for an extempore exam? The preparation is about the state that you allow yourself to be absorbed in at every moment of your life. The more you encourage elevating thoughts, speak constructive words, and do compassionate actions, and allow yourself to be soaked in its sweetness every passing day, you are on the right track of preparation.

Hence, choose your thoughts and keep the best ones. If you seek out the best thoughts that you can entertain, you

will find that the ones that make you feel good are the ones you will naturally prefer. Spirituality advises that the thought that can make you feel at your best is to believe that 'you are Divine and everything is Divine.' In this way, if you keep your thoughts constantly on the Divine, you will ultimately merge your mind into the Divine, which is sure to unveil the most rapturous experience to you. In this state, you will be on autopilot, where the Divine will speak and act through you.

This state is called true freedom or liberation or salvation. It is possible to be liberated while you are living, and by maintaining this state for your whole life time, you will also die a perfect death. Life is after all a classroom; be a good student, and pass the subject of life without fail, when it is time for your passing into the other realm.

The Essence of Republic Day



By SANTOSH SHARMA

Every year we celebrated 26 January as the Republic Day in India. This day is etched in the heart of every Indian. It's not a commemoration, it's a reaffirmation of the power vested in the people, emphasizing their collective responsibility in shaping country's destiny. This day is marked as the day when India's Constitution came into effect, signifying a monumental shift from a constitutional monarchy to a republic. On this day we pay tribute to the visionaries who tirelessly worked towards crafting a Constitution that would serve as guiding light for a diverse and vibrant nation.

On this day we celebrate the anniversary of the Constitution of India and the transition of India from a British Dominion to a republic on 26th January, 1950 across the nation. On this day we proudly fly our tricolor flag, sing patriotic songs and pay tributes to our freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the nation. The significance of the republic date lies in association with the fundamental document that outlines the rights, duties and aspirations of every citizen of the nation. This day encapsulates the spirit of India's journey towards self-governance. This day is a testament to the unity and diversity of the country, echoed in the grand parades down the Rajpath in New Delhi and the Republic Day celebration across the

nation. It is a celebration of liberty, equality and fraternity.

The word democracy has been derived from the Greek word 'demokratia' which consists of the two components namely 'demos' meaning people and 'kratos' meaning rule. Together we mean people's rule. The western scholars such as Bertland Russell and Will Durant trace the origin of the democratic to the city of Athens in Attica which flourished in the fifth century B.C. The word 'Republic' is of Latin origin meaning a state in which the government is carried on by the people or through their elected representatives.

The essence of an ideal republic is free and enlightened citizenship. In such a republic, the citizen is a sovereign and subject. As a sovereign he enacts laws, as a subject he obeys them. The cornerstone of a republic is equality and its prime essentiality is equality. The Sanskritologists believe that the republics first came to India. The Licchavis and Mallas of the pre-Mauryan India of the Buddhist times were the earliest republics of the time.

Even much before Licchavis and Mallas, there were Panchayat republics in the Vedic Age. The Vedic Sabha and the Vedic Samiti were not only elected but also representative in character with full voting rights to women. These institutions were probing the conduct of kings, abuse of power by the powerful and misdeeds of the ministers. The 73rd and the 74th Constitutional Amendments derive their inspiration from the village republics of ancient India.

The Greek and the Roman city-states were

different from the Indian republics known for their high political morality and ethical standards besides people's participation in governance. The Greek General, Alexander was surprised by observing the tough resistance by the Indian small republics. He realized the strength of those small republics, the village Panchayats whom no invader could subdue.

Almost all the foreign travellers from Magesthies to Fabian, Hiuen Tsang and Alberuni paid glowing tributes to the resilience of these small states which upheld the integrity of the nation and contributed their full might to the march of the Indian culture. In the ancient republics of India there was constant communication between the Government, the legislature and the citizen.

The Republic Day history signifies not just a change in political structure but a profound transformation that celebrates the heart and soul of the country.

The Significance of Republic Day contributes to the rich tapestry of India's democratic legacy, reminding us of the supreme sacrifices made and the principles that continue to guide the world's largest democracy. The Indian republic stood not only for welfare but also for human development. The concept of limited monarchy also arose from the Indian soil. There was no such thing as monarchy in ancient India. When we became independent in 1947, we abolished the value of sovereignty centered in the far-off person of the king of England but not the value of sovereignty itself which our Constitution gave its people.

In our country there

is equal opportunity for all right from the ancient times. In the similar way, there is always the freedom of speech. The Guru-Shishya Parampara while acknowledging the authority of the Guru admitted the right of dissent of the Shishya. Buddha tells his followers "Don't follow me blindly. Verify the things for yourself". The verification of knowledge and transparency of facts is Vedanta. Constitution of India is Indian in spirit and Indian in content. It is some of the best in Indian culture which is many centuries old. Before adoption of the Constitution of India i.e. on November 25, 1949, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar and the architect of the Indian Constitution said that we should not be content with the only political democracy.

He said that the idea behind the Indian Constitution was not only holding elections, it was the social and economic democracy. Our political democracy should be of social type. Political democracy cannot last unless social democracy lies at its base. Social democracy means, a way of life which recognises equality, liberty and fraternity as the principles of life. These three principles should not be treated separately.

They form a union of trinity in the sense that to leave one from the other is to defeat the very purpose of democracy. Without fraternity, liberty and equality could not become a natural course of things. It is this democracy to which India is committed culturally as well as constitutionally.

The constitution of India came into force on 26th January, 1950 and India became a republic. The Indian consti-

tution is constituted of 395 articles and twelve schedules. With that the Government of India Act 1935 and the Indian Independence Act 1947 were repealed. The soul of the Constitution lies in its Directive Principles. The Directive Principles are directives to the State about its objectives, goals, and the line on which it is to grow. If there are Fundamental Rights, there are Fundamental Duties also for every citizen of the country.

In ancient India, the democracy was a free gift of its rulers to the people, while in modern India, the people themselves resolve to constitute India into sovereign, socialist, democratic republic. The Directive Principles are for all its citizens social, economic and political justice, liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship, equality of opportunity and status and to promote the fraternity among the people assuring the dignity, unity and integrity of the nation. One of the Directive Principles of the State Policy enunciated in the Constitution of India is the separation of the judicial powers from the stateside Executive Powers.

Judiciary is the shield of innocence and impartial guardian of every private civil right. Judiciary plays a vital role in a federal system. At an apex is the Supreme Court of India. Then there are High Courts at the state level and a subordinate court below them. The power is transferred to the successive governments. We have the largest number of voters in the world. Now the voting age is 18 years of old. The electronic voting has been successfully introduced and every voter has an identity card. The mul-

ti-party system has contributed significantly to the growth of opposition in India. The Parliament Committee System has ensured the accountability of the Government. The Comptroller and Auditor General, Annual Reports keep the Government alert and responsive. In our Constitution there are Group Insurance and Welfare Fund schemes. The laws passed by the Parliament and the state legislatures provide social security and social justice to the people. Our labour laws provide the medical care, maternity protection, provident fund injury compensation and pension for the industrial workers. The 73rd and 74th Amendments in the Constitution have heralded a new chapter in the process of democratic decentralisation. Education is the fundamental right of every child in India up to the age of 14. Culture which was a preserve of the last six decades ago is the concern of the common man today. The benefits of the Republic have reached more than 94% of our country children and adults through 'Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan'-a scheme to remove illiteracy and elementary education. For the average Indian Republic means the onward march of the Indian civilization, the cultural continuity of India, its integrity and solidarity. Democracy in India is not mere casting of franchise, holding elections and declaring results. It is a way of life leading to the reorganization of civil order. Now the people in India are anxious to participate in the processes which shape their lives and destinies. Let's honour the sacrifices of the past and build a bright future for all on this Republic Day.

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Maha Kumbh biggest event on Earth that symbolises unity: Adityanath

Mahakumbh Nagar
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday described the Mahakumbh as the biggest event in the world that symbolises unity. Emphasising the significance of Sanatan Dharma, he likened it to a banyan tree. "Sanatan Dharma is like a vast and majestic banyan tree. It should never be compared to mere shrubs or bushes," he stated.

During his visit to Prayagraj on Saturday, the CM attended an event organised by the All-India Advadhooti Barah Panth-Yogi Mahasabha. He said, "While the world may have different sects and forms of worship, there is only one true religion — Sanatan Dharma — which is the essence of humanity. In India, all forms of worship, though linked to various sects and traditions, are deeply rooted in Sanatan Dharma, sharing a common goal."

Referring to the ongoing Mahakumbh, CM Yogi said, "This sacred event is an opportunity to deliver a unified message to the world. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi often says, the message of Mahakumbh is that unity ensures the nation remains unbroken."

He further highlighted the importance of national security, saying, "If India is safe, we are all safe. If India faces a crisis, it will impact Sanatan Dharma, and no sect or tradition within the country will feel secure. To prevent such a situation, spreading the message of unity is essential."

In his address, the CM expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to be part of the Mahakumbh celebrations. He praised the immense devotion of devotees who took a holy dip at the Triveni Sangam of the Ganga, Yamuna, and



Saraswati rivers during the auspicious days of Panth Purnima and Makar Sankranti. He noted that the positive comments from these devotees have opened the eyes of the world.

The Chief Minister also reiterated PM Narendra Modi's vision, saying, "This is India's century. For India to reach new heights in every field, representatives from all sectors must fulfil their duties with honesty and dedication. While politicians serve in their realm, the army secures the borders, and our revered saints contribute to the religious world."

He mentioned that in every corner of the world, India's influence can be seen in some form. "We have emerged from an era of darkness and are now moving forward," he said.

CM Yogi spoke with great

pride about the ongoing Mahakumbh, describing it as an event that is being celebrated with immense devotion. He stated that crores of devotees have gathered at the Triveni Sangam, with two crore people present at the event as of today. "The roads are completely blocked, and this will continue. In the last 10 days, more than 10 crore devotees have taken the holy dip in the sacred waters of the Triveni Sangam, and in the next 35 days, the number is expected to reach 45 crore," he said.

He highlighted the extraordinary scale of the event, stating that no other country in the world can invite 45 crore people to an inter-city and send out a message of unity. "There is no country where no one has to go hungry. In any akhda or camp here, people will receive food, blessings, and prasadam," he added.

The Chief Minister emphasised the power of Sanatan Dharma, saying, "Here, no one asks about caste, sect, or religion. The only thing that matters is faith. People are not worried about where to stay, where to sleep, or what to eat. They simply pick up their bags and come here. This is the

strength of Sanatan Dharma and our revered saints."

The CM acknowledged the positive atmosphere surrounding the Mahakumbh but also warned of the challenges that lie ahead. He emphasised the importance of maintaining unity within the country and society, urging everyone to resist attempts to divide through language or other means.

"We must not let anyone's conspiracy disturb the unity of our society," he stated. He also urged people to refrain from making negative comments at any level.

CM Yogi highlighted the significance of this moment, noting the grand Mahakumbh at the beginning of 2025 and the completion of the Ram Mandir at the Ram Janmabhoomi after 500 years of anticipation.

He recalled the 2019 Kumbh, where the resolution to build the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya was taken by the saints. "Our goal is to spread the message of unity to the entire world. By creating awareness and uniting society, we can build a stronger nation," he said.

He also emphasised that as society grows stronger, no power in the world will be able to challenge the unity and integrity of the nation.

CM Sukhu inaugurates Bir Paragliding Centre-Hotel complex

Shimla
Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Saturday inaugurated the Bir Paragliding Centre-cum-Hotel complex in Kangra district.

The complex is constructed at a cost of Rs 9 crore by the HP Tourism Development board under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme of the Tourism Department to promote adventure tourism in the state.

Situated in the heart of Bir, the building consists of office rooms, lecture halls, conference rooms, dormitories, single-bed rooms, a dining hall and a modern kitchen and the facility can accommodate tourists and local trainees at the same time, a statement issued here said.

Speaking on the occasion, Sukhu said that adventure sports and tourism have become increasingly popular, offering a unique blend of excitement, challenge, and cultural immersion.

He said that the Bir Paragliding Centre-cum-hotel complex will be jointly run by Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation and ABV Institute of Mountaineering & Allied Sports, Manali. Some part of the building will be kept by the mountaineering institute to run paragliding courses and the rest of the complex will



have hotel facilities for tourists and locals visiting Bir.

The CM said the complex has vast potential to earn revenue for the state as it is going to be one of its kinds in India. It will not only attract tourists visiting the Kangra district but will also provide training to individuals opting to learn paragliding and flying.

He said Bir-Billing, being popular among youngsters, has become the fastest-growing travel destination, which remains fully occupied by travellers and adventure enthusiasts throughout the year.

The complex will offer various courses of Paragliding from basic, and intermediate to advanced courses, as per international standards. For optimum utilisation of this facility, alongside training activities, a full-scale hotel will be operationalised by Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation.

Haryana CM Saini turns 55, celebrates birthday with sanitation workers

Komal Ramola Chandigarh
Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Saturday turned 55 and celebrated his birthday with the 'safai karamcharis' at his official residence here.

The chief minister and his wife Suman Saini had tea and snacks with a group of sanitation workers who had come to greet the CM on his birthday.

"We had come to wish the chief minister on his birthday. He had tea and snacks with us," said Akash, a 'safai karamchari' from Panchkula.

Another 'safai karamchari' said, "We wished him on his birthday. He treated us with a lot of respect and we prayed for his good health and long life." Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union ministers Amit Shah and Manohar Lal Khattar were among the leaders who greeted Saini on his birthday.

Himachal CM promises 25,000 jobs in public sector on statehood day

Shimla
On the occasion of Himachal Pradesh statehood day on Saturday, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said the state government is planning to create 25,000 new posts in the public sector for skilled youth.

Conveying 55th statehood day wishes to the people of Himachal during an event in Kangra's Baijnath, he recalled the contributions of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Himachal Pradesh's first CM Y S Parmar in achieving statehood status.

In a statement issued here, Sukhu said that over 12,500 posts have been filled in the government sector and about 8,000 more will be filled in 2025.

He claimed that over 42,000 jobs were provided in two years compared to 20,000 in five years under the previous BJP government.

Sukhu launched the Him Parivar Portal. This initiative will provide a centralised platform for accessing documents, government services, and welfare schemes for all families in the state, it said.

The portal aims to simplify and enhance transparency in availing government schemes. Citizens can access over 300 government services from the comfort of their homes with the help of the portal.

The CM also distributed Him Parivar Cards.

He also announced the development of grazing lands for shepherds and protection of their rights under the Forest Rights Act.

The government will resolve issues arising from developmental changes in traditional routes, promote eco-friendly sheep and goat rearing, and strengthen the Wool Federation and Wool Board, he added.

In the last two financial

years, the government has taken a loan of Rs 30,080 crore, out of which Rs 18,854 crore, approximately 63 per cent, has been used to repay the principal and interest on loans taken by the previous government, Sukhu said.

Despite financial constraints, the government is focusing on resource generation rather than dependence on loans and has generated additional Rs 2,200 crore, he said.

The CM said that during the BJP's tenure in 2021-22, the state received a revenue deficit grant of Rs 10,249 crore, which reduced to Rs 6,258 crore in 2023-24 and is expected to drop further to Rs 3,257 crore in the next financial year.

For the first time since independence, efforts are being made to connect remote areas like Bara Bhangal and Dadrin-Kwar in Shimla with proper road infrastructure, bringing

them into the mainstream of development.

The CM announced the upgradation of Chadiyar Sub-Tehsil to a Tehsil, opening of a new Public Works Department subdivision in Chadiyar and the establishment of a digital library.

He also announced plans for the development of Tattvani's hot water springs and Kheer Ganga Ghat as tourist destinations.

He further announced the opening of a Rajiv Gandhi Day-Boarding School in Mahalpat village of Baijnath Gram Panchayat.

Eight panchayats of Police Chowki Multhan including Baragan, Kothikhar, Dharan, Multhan, Luwai, Poling, Sward, and Bara Bhangal, will now be brought under the jurisdiction of the Police Station Bari, benefiting 7,500 people across 35 villages, he said.

Punjab, Haryana tighten security in view of R-Day

Chandigarh
As the nation is celebrating its 76th Republic Day on January 26, the security arrangements in the states of Punjab, Haryana, and the Union Territory of Chandigarh have been tightened.

Security arrangements have been strengthened at vulnerable places and key installations, bus stands, railway stations, and government buildings at the district headquarters, officials said.

Security has also been strengthened in and around the venues where the Republic Day celebrations will be held, including where top dignitaries will unfurl the tricolour.

Dog and bomb squad teams have been pressed into service to ensure fool-proof security in vulnerable places across Punjab and Haryana, the officials said.

Checkpoints have been set up at several places across the two states and vehicles are being thoroughly checked.

Punjab's Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav had recently said the state police is fully prepared to ensure secure and peaceful Republic Day celebrations and that security has been enhanced across the state.

Meanwhile, speaking on the arrangements, Punjab Special DGP (Law & Order) Arpit Shukla says, "A red alert has been declared in Punjab given the Republic Day celebrations. Special operations are being launched in all the districts of Punjab. The senior officers from Chandigarh have been sent to the fields to inspect the security arrangements. Checking is being done in all the districts of Punjab to keep an eye on gangsters, smugglers, and anti-social elements."

"Intensive checking is also being done at the bus stops, and railway stations. We have strengthened the second line of defence along the international borders.

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My Client's Yashraj Sapra S/o Late. Ram Swaroop Sapra and Smt. Poonam Sapra W/o Yashraj Sapra R/o Flat No. B-502 Ahinsa Vatika, Ram Nagar Extension, Shahdara, Delhi - 110032, sever all relations and disown his SON "YASH RAJ SAPRA" and his wife "KANISHKA SAPRA" from all movable and immovable properties due to their disobedience and being out of control. My Client and their family member will not be responsible for their any act/deeds in future.
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My Client's Ms. Parveen Begam W/o. Mohd. Yasin R/o H.No.692, Galia Begum Hauz Qasab, Delhi-110006 debarred her son namely Ramzani and his wife Sana from her life and properties (movable and immovable) due to their harassing nature. My client and her family members will not be responsible for any act, deed & things whatsoever done by the said persons with any body.
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BJP planning to create disturbance in Milkipur bypolls, says SP chief

Lucknow
Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday claimed that like the previous by-elections, the BJP is planning to create disturbances in the Milkipur bypolls by misusing the administrative machinery.

In the by-elections held in nine assembly seats in UP in November last year, the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance candidates won seven seats, while the SP had managed to win only two seats.

Yadav was addressing a meeting of workers at the Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Auditorium at Samajwadi Party's state headquarters in Lucknow on Saturday.

Accusing the ruling BJP, he said, "Like the previous by-elections, the BJP is planning to create disturbances in the Milkipur bypolls, by misusing the administrative machinery." In a statement issued by the SP,



Now, the public has decided to give it a crushing defeat in the 2027 elections as well as in the Milkipur by-election. Just as the BJP came to power in the state in 2017, it will be out of power in 2027."

He said that despite the BJP's many conspiracies, the supreme power of the people cannot be denied. The SP is engaged in connecting everyone with the resolution of PDA (Backward, Dalit, Minority). Under this, everyone will have a stake in the success of social justice. The Samajwadi Party is committed to democracy, socialism and the Constitution.

Ten candidates are in the fray in the February 5 bypoll for the Milkipur assembly seat in Uttar Pradesh's Ayo-dhya district.

The main contest in the bypoll is expected to be between SP's Ajit Prasad and the BJP's Chandrabhanu Passwan.

democracy. The results of the Milkipur by-election will have an impact on the next assembly elections," the SP chief said.

He added that the public has understood why the BJP never speaks the truth. Lies and loot are its only mission and it has no vision for development.

The former UP chief minister also said, "By misusing power, the BJP gives false assurances and makes new excuses to defame the opposi-

VP gives away awards in excellence in field of handicrafts to two brothers

Akash Jain Agra
The Vice-President of India Jaideep Dhanekar here on Friday gives away awards to two brothers of Agra in field of handicrafts for their excellence.

On the occasion of UP Day, six eminent personalities of the state were honored with UP Gaurav Samman in the ceremony organized at Awadh Shipgram in the state capital Lucknow.

On this occasion, industrial units selected for excellent work were also honored. In which, for excellent performance in the field of handicrafts, Agra's Stone-man Crafts India Group was honored with the Uttar Pradesh Udayam Award in the first category under Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises by the state government.

This honor was given to the directors of Stoneman Crafts India, Rajat Asthana



and Shishir Asthana by Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhanekar and Chief Minister of the state Yogi Adityanath.

UP Day celebrations were inaugurated by Vice President Jagdeep Dhanekar, Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. During this, many dignitaries including State Government Culture Minister Jaiver Singh, Rajya Sabha MP Dr. Dinesh Sharma were present.

Sri Lanka
Reviews Adani
Wind Power
Projects

Colombo: The Sri Lankan government on Saturday said it has appointed a committee to review the Adani Green Energy wind power projects in Mannar and Pooneryn districts.

At the same time, it said there was no decision to cancel the projects awarded to the Indian conglomerate.

Speaking to reporters here, government spokesperson Nalinda Jayathissa clarified that the government decided against signing an agreement based on the power purchase prices negotiated by the previous administration in 2023.

"There was no decision to cancel the Mannar and Pooneryn projects, but rather to appoint a committee to review them. The committee has started its work, and once the review is complete, we will determine what changes need to be made," he said.

The previous government of Ranil Wickremesinghe in May last year signed a 20-year power purchase agreement for the 484 MW Adani wind plants at a rate of USD 0.826 per unit. This decision drew criticism as local bidders reportedly offered lower unit prices.

Hamas releases four Israeli soldiers in exchange for 200 Palestinian captives

Gaza: Hamas on Saturday released four female Israeli soldiers to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), ending their 477-day captivity. The soldiers—Karina Anjiev, Daniella Gilboa, Naama Levy, and Liri Albag—were handed over as part of a high-stakes prisoner exchange aimed at solidifying a truce to end the 15-month-long conflict in Gaza.

According to The Times of Israel, the soldiers were paraded publicly on a stage in Gaza City prior to their release, dressed in military-style uniforms and holding bags supplied by their captors. Smiling and waving, they were then escorted to ICRC vehicles, which transported them to Israeli forces for reunification.

The exchange is part of a broader truce agreement in which Hamas has agreed to release 200 prisoners, including members of Islamic



Jihad and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). Many of the released Palestinians had been serving life sentences for various offences.

Saturday's event marks the second swap since the ceasefire took effect on Sunday. Earlier in the week, three Israeli civilians were exchanged

for 90 Palestinian prisoners.

The soldiers had been captured on October 7, 2023, during a Hamas attack on Israel. Stationed at an observation post near Gaza, they were seized as part of the offensive. Reports also indicate that one soldier had been held by Islamic Jihad prior to the exchange.

The truce, mediated by Qatar and Egypt with support from the United States, represents the first significant pause in hostilities since a brief ceasefire in November 2023. As part of the agreement, Israel will partially withdraw its forces from a key area in central Gaza, enabling

displaced Palestinians to begin returning to northern Gaza.

The UN on Friday raised concerns about Israel's use of warlike mechanisms in the occupied West Bank in violation of international human rights law.

"The deadly Israeli operations in recent days raise serious concerns about unnecessary or disproportionate use of force, including methods and means developed for warfighting, in violation of international human rights law, norms and standards applicable to law enforcement operations," UN Human Rights Office spokesperson Thameen al-Kheetan told a media briefing in Geneva.

At least 12 Palestinians have been killed and several others wounded in Israel's attacks on the occupied territory, which escalated since the signing of the ceasefire agreement with Hamas.

Son of former Lankan president, arrested on corruption charges



Colombo: Former Sri Lankan president Mahinda Rajapaksa's son Yashitha Rajapaksa was arrested by police on Saturday on corruption charges in a property purchase case.

Ex-navy officer Yashitha was arrested from his home territory of Beliatta over the investigation of alleged misconduct in the purchase of the property during the term of his father's presidency prior to 2015.

Yashitha is the second among Mahinda Rajapaksa's three sons. His uncle and former president Gotabaya Rajapaksa was also quizzed by the police last week on the same property - a holiday home in the southern religious resort of Kataramaga. The arrest came as

Mahinda Rajapaksa filed a fundamental rights petition on Friday in the Supreme Court seeking its intervention to reinstate his security, which was significantly reduced by the government last month.

Since the formation of a new government led by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake in November last year, Mahinda Rajapaksa's eldest son and legislator Namal Rajapaksa was quizzed by the police over another property case alongside an employee of Mahinda Rajapaksa.

The new government in the run-up to elections had vowed to arrest everyone accused of wrongdoing during Mahinda Rajapaksa's presidency between 2005 and 2015.

Chinese nationals move Pakistani court against police harassment

Karachi: Six Chinese nationals in Pakistan petitioned a high court against police harassment, including demanding money and putting restrictions on their movement in the name of security.

They filed the plea in the Sindh High Court in Karachi on Friday, where a two-judge bench heard the case.

The bench issued notices to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and others,



including the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan and its consulate in Karachi and relevant federal and provincial law officers.

Xu Hui, Deng Huan and four other Chinese nationals filed the petition through their counsel, submitting that they came to Pakistan after fulfilling all required legal formalities and invested a significant amount of money and resources in various business ventures and sectors in the country.

It is the first time Chinese nationals have approached a high court against harassment by police in Pakistan.

The petitioners cited Sindh's chief secretary, the provincial home secretary, the inspector general of police, and other senior police officers as respondents.

They maintained it was the responsibility of the respondents to protect and provide a secure environment for all foreign nationals legally residing and investing in the country.

Counsel for the foreign nationals Rehman Me-

hsud told the media that his clients had decided to approach the court after "being subjected to harassment, bribery demands, invasion of privacy and other problems in the name of security."

"They have complained that they are practically prisoners in their own homes," police officers enter their bedrooms without knocking, some take bribes for providing transporta-

tion if they want to go out," he said.

The petitioners alleged that the Sindh police had harassed them for six to seven months, unjustifiably restricting the movements of Chinese nationals in Karachi and Sindh and detaining them within their residences under the pretext of "security issues," without clear legal grounds or specific incidents to justify such actions.

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BUSINESS

NTPC Profit Dips Slightly in Q3: Rs 5,169 cr

New Delhi: State-owned power giant NTPC on Saturday reported a marginal dip in its consolidated net profit to Rs 5,169.69 crore for the October-December quarter compared to the year-ago period due to higher tax expenses and adjustments.

The company had a consolidated net profit of Rs 5,208.87 crore in the quarter ended on December 31, 2023, a BSE filing showed.

Total income rose to Rs 45,597.95 crore in the third quarter from Rs 43,574.65 crore in the same period a year ago.

Total tax expenses in the quarter increased to Rs 2,075.12 crore from Rs 1,361.75 crore a year ago. Similarly, net movement in regulatory deferral account balances (net of tax) was (minus) Rs 343.09 crore in the quarter against Rs 1436.24 crore (plus) in the same period a year ago.

Net movement in regulatory deferral ac-

count balances (net of tax) consists of exchange differences arising from settlement/translation of monetary item denominated in foreign currency to the extent recoverable from or payable to the beneficiaries, in subsequent periods, deferred tax liability reversible in future periods when they become current tax and similar items which will be materialised in future considering the CERC Tariff Regulations and the requirements of Ind AS 114 'Regulatory deferral accounts'.

Board of Directors in its meeting on Saturday decided, inter alia, to pay second interim dividend at the rate of 25 per cent (Rs. 2.5 per share) on the face value of paid-up equity shares of Rs 10 each for the financial year 2024-25.

The average tariff increased to Rs 4.68 per unit in the nine month period from April to December 2024. From Rs 4.57 per unit in the same period a year ago.

Over 7,500 delegates from 20 countries to attend Odisha business conclave: CM

Bhubaneswar: More than 7,500 delegates, including many from 20 foreign countries, will attend a business conclave in Odisha's Bhubaneswar scheduled to be held from January 28-29, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the event on January 28 at Janata Maidan, the conclave venue, he said.

"The state is in all readiness to host the 'biggest' business summit 'Ut-karsh Odisha - Make In Odisha Conclave 2025', Majhi said on Friday after taking stock of the preparations at the venue.

"The conclave would prove to be a historic one and it will not only lay a foundation for a strong and vibrant economy but also create vast opportunities for farmers and labourers," the CM said.



Majhi said more than 100 MoUs would be signed during the two-day conclave, which has

the potential to create employment for 3.5 lakh people.

Around 100 foreign delegates would come to the conclave from various countries, including Singapore, Australia and

ICICI Bank Q3 profit rises 15% to Rs 11,792 cr

New Delhi: ICICI Bank on Saturday reported 15 per cent rise in standalone net profit at Rs 11,792 crore for the third quarter ended December 2024.

The second-largest private sector lender had earned a net profit of Rs 10,272 crore in the same quarter a year ago.

Total income increased to Rs 48,368 crore from Rs 42,792 crore in the same period a year ago, ICICI Bank said in a regulatory filing.

Interest income increased to Rs 41,300 crore during the quarter under review as compared to Rs 36,695 crore in the year-ago period.

On the asset quality front, the bank's gross non-performing assets ratio improved to 1.96 per cent as against 2.3 per cent a year ago. Similarly, net NPAs, or bad loans, came down to 0.42 per cent from 0.44 per cent at the end of the third quarter last fiscal year.

However, the overall provisions, excluding tax increased to Rs 1,227 crore from the quarter from Rs 1,049 crore a year ago.

A Provision coverage ratio on non-performing loans was 78.2 per cent as on December 31, 2024.

Capital Adequacy Ratio rose to 14.71 per cent at the end of the third quarter of the previous financial year.

HaveUs AeroTech acquires land parcel in Kolkata

New Delhi: HaveUs AeroTech is thrilled to announce that the company has acquired 2 acres of land in Barrackpore, Kolkata for its next upcoming MRO project. Of the 2 acres, the company will develop its first project on the 10,000 square feet of covered land with MRO capabilities like wheel & brake, avionics and lifesaving equipment. The facility is in close proximity, about eleven and half kilometers from Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose international airport making it extremely feasible for airlines and MROs from logistics and supply chain point of view.



The remaining land will be developed in the later stage for certain high-end component repairs like

Radomes, Auxiliary power units (APUs) and landing gears.

After expanding operations and opening new

office in Delhi, HaveUs AeroTech had previous hints of its ambitious expansion plans all over India, with Kolkata in focus. In sync with the long-term vision of atmanirbhar bharat (make-in-India) in MRO the company has planned robust expansion spree across India.

Let us look at some of the important highlights of the new upcoming MRO in Kolkata.

HaveUs AeroTech plans to establish Kolkata MRO specializing in wheels and brake, avionics etc. to start with gradually expanding it to component MRO

along with certain defense projects lined up along with way. The company has planned to invest over INR 50 crore in this new upcoming facility.

On the recruitment front, HaveUs AeroTech plans to recruit 100-150 highly skilled aerospace engineers, technicians etc. with plans to expand the facility as well as employment process eyeing demand.

Speaking on the selection of Kolkata to build a new MRO facility, Anshul Bhargava, Founder and MD, HaveUs AeroTech said: "The eastern part of India is an untapped market with

hardly any MRO facilities in the region. HaveUs plans to tap this opportunity to service the aircraft coming from other neighboring Asian countries like Myanmar, Bangladesh and Nepal at an affordable cost."

Interestingly, Barrackpore has a long-dated history and holds special significance in Indian freedom struggle, it was from this place that India's first battle led by legendary Mangal Pandey begun in 1857 sowing the seeds of revolutions. Acknowledging this Bhargava says that Kolkata HaveUs MRO will bring the next MRO

revolution in India. Currently aircraft from East Asia most go either to China or Singapore or the West for servicing and maintenance. HaveUs plans to break this chain and offer affordable MRO service right on Indian soil.

However, to make this venture a success and for developing Kolkata as next upcoming MRO hub, HaveUs AeroTech is seeking the support of local authorities and West Bengal government. With their support the company is confident of developing Kolkata into a vibrant MRO center of the east.

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If you don't have good performers in your films, no one will watch it: R Madhavan

FNew Delhi
ashy visuals, big stars and big bang promotions may have worked in a film's favour earlier but audiences today are prioritising compelling performances more than anything, says R Madhavan.

The actor said it doesn't matter how big or small the film is, it will not do well without actually good performers.

"Which is a great relief because if you don't have actors in your films who

can truly get into character, deliver their lines well, and impress with

"Which is a great relief because if you don't have actors in your films who can truly get into character, deliver their lines well, and impress with their ability to step outside the norm, no one will watch the movie," the actor said.

step outside the norm, no one will watch the movie," the actor said.

Asked if it is concerning that only mass entertainers, particularly from the South, are raking in big numbers at the box office these days, Madhavan said, "Many films without big stars have also per-

formed well.

"Small films like 'Munhya' for instance have done so well. People looked at films, which were unexpected... At the same time, there have been many large big ticket films that have flopped without a whisper. So, I think it really is a matter of how aspirational and how big screen-friendly the content and the performances are," he added.

Madhavan's latest movie is 'Hisaab Barabar', which premiered on streaming service ZEE5 on Friday.

Kapil Sharma begins filming 'Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon 2'

AMumbai
ctor-comedian Kapil Sharma has started shooting for his upcoming comedy movie 'Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon 2'.



"The upcoming movie is a sequel to the 2015 hit 'Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon', which marked Sharma's debut in the Hindi film industry.

"Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon 2" is directed by Anukalp Goswami and produced by Ratan Jain and Ganesh Jain under Venus World-wide Entertainment in association with Abbas Mus-taan Film Production.

stars Manjot Singh, will "deliver another dose of laughter and chaos" to the viewers.

Sharma was most recently seen in "Crew", co-starring Tabu, Kriti Sanon and Kareena Kapoor Khan.

Akshay Kumar-Veer Pahariya's 'Sky Force' collects Rs 15.30 crore on day one

BMumbai
ollywood has a new star, and he has arrived with a bang. Veer Pahariya's debut film, Sky Force, has taken flight with a massive ₹15.30 crore opening on its very first day, making him the first-ever debutant to achieve such an extraordinary feat.

In a landscape where first-time actors often take years to find their footing, Veer has rewritten the rules with an entry that has captivated audiences and shattered expectations.

Sky Force, a patriotic action-drama based on the heroics of the 1965 India-Pakistan war, has struck a

chord with viewers for its emotional depth, gripping

Sky Force, a patriotic action-drama based on the heroics of the 1965 India-Pakistan war, has struck a chord with viewers for its emotional depth, gripping narrative, and high-octane action. But the true revelation has been Veer Pahariya, whose commanding screen presence, nuanced performance, and heartfelt delivery have left audiences and critics alike singing his praises.

delivery have left audiences and critics

From his impactful dialogues to his portrayal of a young Air Force pilot, Veer's performance exudes both

vulnerability and grit, making his debut nothing short of spectacular.

Sharing the screen with seasoned actors like Akshay Kumar, Nimrat Kaur, and Sara Ali Khan, Veer holds his own with remarkable ease, proving that he's more than just a promising new



Oscars host Conan O'Brien, still displaced by wildfires

O Park City (US)
scars host Conan O'Brien says he's still unable to live in his home due to the devastating wildfires in Los Angeles and that the show's organisers "want to be sensitive to what's happened" to residents.

"Everybody I know has been affected," O'Brien told The Associated Press Friday. "I'm out of my house. Fortunately, my house, ... the fire got very close but my house survived. But we won't be back in there for a long time. And I'm the lucky one. I mean, I know so many people who lost their homes and I'm just, was ridiculously lucky. So we want to make sure that that show reflects what's happening and that we put a light on the right people in the right way."

Thousands of Angelinos had their homes destroyed

in wildfires that tore through the Pacific Palisades and Altadena neighbourhoods this month. Many of those whose homes survived cannot yet return due to smoke or other damage.

O'Brien was tapped last year to host the 97th Academy Awards, which will be held March 2 in Los Angeles. The fires twice postponed the academy's nominations announcement, which was held Thursday; "Emilia Pérez" emerged as the leading nominee.

The fires have upended Hollywood's awards season and effectively turned it into a pledge drive. Some have questioned whether the Oscars should be cancelled but its organisers say they will transform the show in a way that "unites us as a global film community and acknowledge those who fought so bravely against the wildfires."



Kajol shares throwback from 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai'

KMumbai
ajol took her fans on a nostalgic trip as she shared a still from the iconic song "Saajanji Ghar Aaye" from the 1998 blockbuster 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' and joked about her many on-screen weddings and breakups.

"The 'Dihwale' actress posted the picture on Instagram along with a hilarious question that read, "Is it bridal season still? Hey, I got married onscreen quite a few times and ditched as well! Which did I do more of?? #KuchKuchHotaHai #nostalgia."

In the film, Kajol played Anjali, whose journey saw her transition from a tomboyish college girl in shorts and T-shirts to a saree-clad bride-to-be. In the climax, her character chooses her college sweetheart Rahul, played by Shah Rukh Khan, over Aman, played by Salman Khan.

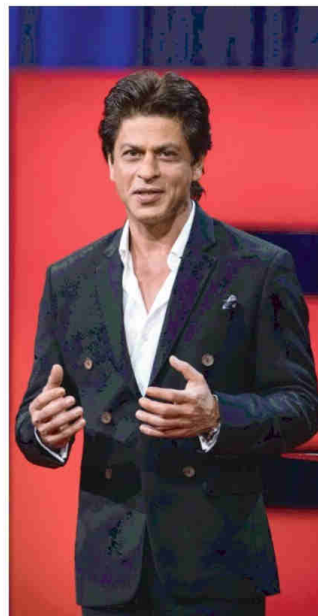
IIFA Awards took Indian cinema forward across the world: Shah Rukh Khan

BMumbai
ollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan has credited International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards for taking Indian cinema to the global stage.

"It's a marvellous achievement taking Indian cinema forward... It's been good times with IIFA, and I pray for them (organisers) that they take Indian cinema global, put it on the platform, which makes us relevant all over the world," Khan told reporters here at the IIFA press conference on Friday evening.

The Bollywood star, who has been associated with the IIFA awards for over two decades, said he has some "fond and wild" memories of attending the award show over the years.

"It's been a great journey, it's been too much fun. They (organisers - Andre Timmims, Viral Sarkari and Sabbas Joseph) always have been hard working, I remember them arranging chairs at different award functions for us, been kind to us, and showing warmth. From the beginning of the show to the end, they've been always looking after us," he said, adding he has had a great time performing and hosting the IIFA Awards in the past.



Khan said he is excited to be part of the 25th edition of the IIFA Awards, which is to be held on March 8 and 9 in Jaipur.

"I've always said to them, 'We should have IIFA in

our country', and no better place than Jaipur to be hosting this. We will have our show, come and enjoy and celebrate Indian film industry with us over there," he said.

Soha Ali Khan, Kunal Kemmu mark a decade of togetherness

AMumbai
s actors Soha Ali Khan and Kunal Kemmu celebrate a decade of marriage, the two took a nostalgic trip down memory lane as they shared throwback pictures and videos from their 10-year-long journey together.

Soha took to her Instagram account on Saturday morning to share an adorable post, which included a beautiful video from their wedding day, vacation snapshots, and moments from their life together.

Along with the post, the 'Rang De Basanti' actress also added a caption that read, "Ten years later... I still do, and I always will."

Meanwhile, Kunal posted a collection of photos from their vacations and dedicated a loving message to his "jaan" Soha.

"In sunshine, in rain. In happiness, in pain. You make the cold seem warmer, and you make the odd seem sane. It would be incomplete, this journey



called life, if I didn't have you as my partner, my wife @sakpataudi. Happy 10th Anniversary, my jaan. This song was always meant for you. Even when I didn't know you," wrote the 'Dhol' actor.

Soha, the daughter of former cricketer Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi and actor Sharmila Tagore, married Kunal on January 25, 2015. The couple welcomed their first child, daughter Inaaya Naumi Kemmu, on September 29, 2017.

