



Weekly

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# ETILAAT

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Srinagar

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## Government, Opposition Parties Reach Consensus To End Deadlock In Ongoing Winter Session Of Parliament

**New Delhi:** The government and the opposition parties reached a consensus to end the deadlock in the ongoing winter session of Parliament, ensuring smooth functioning of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

The breakthrough came during a meeting convened by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla of the Floor leaders of various political parties at the Parliament House on Monday afternoon. During the meeting, Mr

Birla requested all the members to let the house to function smoothly and the leaders agreed to extend their support to run the house smoothly.

The meeting was attended by Gaurav Gogoi of Congress, Kalyan Banerjee of TMC, Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu of TDP, T R Baalu of DMK, Supriya Sule of NCP, Dharmendra Yadav of SP, Dileshwar Kamait of JD(U), Abhay Kushwaha of RJD, Arvind Sawant of Shiv Sena (UBT) among

others.

Later, talking to reporters outside the Parliament, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said, the leaders who were present in the meeting have assured their support for smooth conduct of both the Houses of Parliament. He said, a special discussion on the Constitution to commemorate its 75th year of adoption, will be held in the Lok Sabha on 13th and 14th of this

...See on P4



### ADGP Jammu reviews security, crime scenario in Doda, Kishtwar



**Jammu, :** To strengthen the fight against unlawful activities and ensure effective legal action under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Zone, Anand Jain Monday visited district Doda and chaired a meeting to review the status of UAPA cases of the Doda and Kishtwar.

During the crime review, the ADGP assessed the progress of investigations, prosecution efforts, and legal compliance in ongoing cases. The meeting aimed to enhance coordination between the police and prosecuting agencies, ensuring that all cases under UAPA were handled promptly and effectively.

Key highlights of the meeting included case progress analysis, in which a ...See on P4

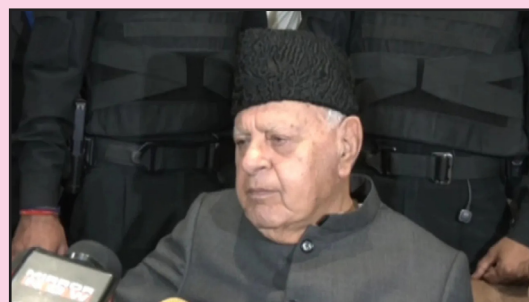
### RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat Urges Families To Have Three Children, Ensuring Societal Survival



Web Desk: RSS leader Dr. Mohan Bhagwat has urged families to have at least three children to ensure societal survival, highlighting demographic research during a Nagpur speech. He warned that fertility rates below 2.1 could lead to community extinction, citing the loss of languages and cultures. RSS chief Dr Mohan Bhagwat has reignited India's population debate, urging families to have at least three children to ensure societal survival. Speaking in Nagpur, Bhagwat cited demographic studies to justify his appeal, warning that a fertility rate below 2.1 could lead to the extinction of communities. A decline in population is a serious concern.

...See on P4

### Prepare for ULB, panchayat polls: Farooq Abdullah to party cadre



Srinagar: National Conference (NC) President and three-time chief minister Farooq Abdullah Monday urged his party cadre to prepare for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Panchayat polls and reaffirmed NC's commitment to fulfil its manifesto promises.

Addressing senior party leaders, Abdullah emphasised the importance of rigorous preparation for the upcoming ULB and Panchayat polls.

Underscoring the need to field young and educated candidates to ensure effective governance at all levels, he said, "A government is strong only when the foundation of the party at the grassroots level is robust."

The NC chief stressed the need to strengthen party cadres and work tirelessly for the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

...See on P4



# LG calls for modernisation, strengthening of Police

**Jammu:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Tuesday emphasised bolstering Police and allied organisations, infusing technology in alignment with human resources for modernisation to effectively deal with the security and law and order-related challenges in J&K.

Reviewing the progress of ongoing projects under Security Related Expenditure (SRE), Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) and issues related to prison management and border management, he directed to expedite the pace of work to meet stipulated deadlines.

LG Sinha issued these directions while chairing a high-level meeting to review the functioning of the Home Department today at Raj Bhawan.

This was the second high-level meeting chaired by the Lieutenant Governor after his Secretariat started functioning in Jammu on November 11.

In an assertion of earlier guidelines regarding "no leniency while dealing with all threats to internal security", emphasis was made on fine-tuning strategies with a synergetic approach.

In the case of border manage-

ment also, the direction was to identify vulnerabilities and check flaws to ensure a synergised fool-proof system in place.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo; Principal Secretary, Home, Chandraker Bharti; DGP Nalin Prabhat; DGP Prisons, Deepak Kumar; ADGP Headquarters and Coordination, M K Sinha; ADGP Law and Order, Vijay Kumar; ADGP Jammu, Anand Jain; Director Fire and Emergency Services, Alok Kumar; ADGP CID, Nitish Kumar; Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Dr Mandeep K Bhandari; IGP Kashmir, Vidhi Kumar Birdi and other senior officials of the J&K Police.

An official spokesperson said that at the outset of the meeting, the Lieutenant Governor was briefed on Security Related Expenditure (SRE), manpower positioning, infrastructure works and other important issues of Home and subordinate departments including J&K Police, Prisons, Fire and Emergency Services, Home Guards, SDRF, Prosecution and Forensic Sciences.

"The Lieutenant Governor em-



phasised modernisation and strengthening of Police and allied organisations to effectively deal with the security and law and order related challenges. He further directed for completion of all projects under SRE and PMDP within the stipulated time," the spokesperson said.

The meeting also discussed effective prison management, human resources and other issues related to internal security and the criminal justice system.

Following the meeting, LG Sinha, on his official 'X' han-

dle (Office of LG, J&K), posted, "Chaired a review meeting of the Home Department at Raj Bhawan today. Evaluated the progress of ongoing projects under SRE and PMDP and discussed issues related to prison management, border management, police modernisation and human resources."

Earlier on November 17, LG Sinha had chaired a high-level meeting of senior officials of civil administration and J&K Police to review security and development projects in the Jammu region.

e had emphasised syner-gised operations and a fool-proof security grid to thwart the malevolent design of terrorists and anti-national elements in the region. He had asked the officers to go full throttle, with an iron-hand approach in synchronisation with effective and foolproof strategies, to "demolish terrorism and its aiders and abettors."

Regarding development, he had focussed on seamless, expedited execution of major infra projects meeting deadlines.

## CM calls for ending 'attachment practice'

**Jammu:** Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Tuesday called for putting an ending to the practice of attachments.

Chairing a high-level meeting at the civil secretariat to review the functioning of the General Administration Department (GAD), the CM specifically called for a review of attachments in the Health and Medical Education and Education Departments.

The CM held discussions on key aspects, including the working of the J&K Public Service Commission, J&K Service Selection Board promotions, cadre management, training, transfers, and other administrative matters.

Emphasising the need to address stagnation among JKAS officers, he directed the department to propose actionable solutions.

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to grow," CM Omar said.

To ensure streamlined governance, he gave directions to impose a complete ban on re-employment, extensions, additional charges,

and attachments, except in extraordinary circumstances.

"The distribution of posts following the reorganisation must be looked into. We need to address disparities and ensure that J&K has adequate posts to meet administrative demands," the CM said.

He also inquired about the status and performance of employees appointed under the PM Package for Kashmiri migrants.

CM Omar directed the department to examine the re-appropriation of posts following the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir and the creation of Ladakh Union Territory, noting discrepancies in the distribution of vacancies.

Earlier, Commissioner Secretary GAD, Sanjeev Verma, presented a detailed overview of the department's functioning, covering key sections such as administration, cabinet coordination, personnel management, cadre management, and transfer policies.

Discussions also focused on compassionate appointments under

SRO-43 and the J&K Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme-2022, as well as service-related matters for All India Services and J&K Administrative Services.

The meeting reviewed IT initiatives like SPARROW, JKHRMS, and officer training programmes.

Advisor to the CM, Nasir Aslam Wani; Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary to the CM, Dheeraj Gupta and Commissioner Secretary GAD attended the meeting.

In a separate meeting, CM Omar reviewed the establishment of Raabta – the CM's Public Services and Outreach Office, a single-window interface aimed at enhancing government-citizen interaction.

On improving grievance redressal systems through Raabta, he said, "Raabta will serve as a bridge between the government and the people, ensuring timely delivery of public services and enhancing public participation in governance, and added that "it is a step towards a more responsive and citizen-cen-



tric administration."

The CM directed officials to integrate Raabta with JK Samadhan to create a unified and comprehensive grievance redressal system.

"By integrating Raabta with JK Samadhan, we are creating a unified grievance redressal system that will ensure faster resolutions and a more streamlined approach to addressing citizens' concerns," he said.

Secretary Grievances, Aijaz Asad, presented the framework for Raabta, highlighting its role as a bridge between the government and citizens.

The platform will enhance public participation, ensure a responsive government, and enable the timely delivery of public services.

Citizens will be able to submit grievances and suggestions through both offline and online modes.



# Terrorist killed in Dachigam encounter: Police

**A top Police official said that the terrorist, identified as Junaid Ahmad Bhat, was wanted for the Gagangeer attack in which seven civilians were killed**

**Srinagar:** The Jammu and Kashmir Police Tuesday said that the terrorist killed in a gunfight with the Police and security forces in the Dachigam forests was wanted in the October 20 Gagangeer, Sonamarg tunnel attack.

A top Police official said that the terrorist, identified as Junaid Ahmad Bhat, was wanted for the Gagangeer attack in which seven civilians were killed.

He said that Bhat was a local commander of the Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT).

"In the ongoing operation, one terrorist identified as Junaid Ahmed Bhat (LeT, Category A) has been killed. He was involved in the killing of civilians in Gagangeer, Ganderbal, and several other terror attacks," a Police spokesman said on X. The spokesman said that based on specific intelligence inputs, joint parties of security forces launched a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in the upper reaches of the Dachigam forest.

"The operation was launched on Monday evening after receiving information about suspicious movement in the area. Two terrorists were believed to be trapped," an official said.

The killing of Junaid Bhat has been



termed as a "big achievement" for the security forces.

"It is a big achievement for the security agencies," a top Police official said.

Talking to Greater Kashmir, Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir Range, Vidhi Kumar Birdi said the terrorist killed in the Dachigam encounter was active since July 2023.

"He was from Kulgam," he said.

On whether it was a group of terrorists, the IGP said there was no clarity about it.

"This is the reason why searches are still going on in the area," he said. "But, yes, there are few chances that a terrorist will move alone in dense forests like this. It is necessary to search the area again."

On whether the second terrorist, who was believed to be trapped in the en-

counter, managed to escape, the IGP said it would not be right to draw this conclusion at the moment as the searches were going on in the forests.

He said that J&K Police and security forces received information on Monday evening following which an operation was launched which later turned into an encounter.

The IGP said that the terrorist who was killed in the encounter was tracked by the security forces for a long time post-Gagangeer incident.

"After getting the information, the security forces conducted this operation and killed him," he said.

IGP Birdi said that the detailed statement would be issued after the operation ends.

"I would like to clarify one thing, this is not the main area of Srinagar where the encounter took place. It is on the outskirts and upper reaches of Srinagar. The area is surrounded by rugged mountainous ranges and jungle," he said. Meanwhile, an official said that speculative shots were being fired at the encounter spot to see if there would be any response from the other side.

## Strive for full digitisation of health services: CS

**Jammu:** Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo today directed the Health and Medical Education (H&ME) Department to strive for full digitisation of health services.

According to an official press release, he was addressing a meeting of Health and Medical Education (H&ME) Department. The meeting was convened to take assessment of the measures taken under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) to ensure secure and hassle-free availability of services under this initiative.

Besides the Secretary H&ME, the meeting was attended by MD NHM; Principals of Medical Colleges; Director Health Services Kashmir/Jammu and other concerned officers. The Chief Secretary emphasised upon the Department to make best out of ABDM in creating a system to digitize the services offered by the Health Department. He called for digitization of health records in a safe and secure man-



ner besides focusing on developing Electronic Health Records (EHR) for safeguarding these for posterity.

Dulloo maintained that such an exercise would be highly beneficial for the medics in proper diagnosis based upon the history of the

patient and earlier treatments received by him/her. He directed for sending bulk SMSes to the people creating awareness about the benefits of ABHA to them.

He urged the Department to simultaneously take measures for periodical updation of registries of

health institutions and health professionals here along with their availability and kind of medical/diagnostic services offered by each of them.

The Chief Secretary also emphasised upon covering all OPD admissions under ABDM. He asked

for extending QR code based registrations to other hospitals in addition to those it has already been introduced in. He advised for moving towards creating EHR of patients that is the ultimate objective of the mission to make healthcare providing a paperless exercise.

While giving overview of the functioning of this mission the Secretary, H&ME, Dr Syed Abid Rashid Shah gave out that the main building blocks of ABDM comprises creation of ABHA IDs of the population here besides generating a repository of both health practitioners and institutions in the shape of Health Professionals Registry (HPR) and Health Facility Registry (HFR) respectively.

It was further revealed that till now nearly 90,90,802 ABHA ids had been created for the targeted population of around 1.36 Cr. Moreover the HFR contains all public health facilities and empanelled private institutions also.

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# FROM THE FRONT PAGE.....

## Government, Opposition

month. In the Rajya Sabha, the discussion will take place on 16th and 17th December.

Earlier, both the Houses of Parliament could not transact any substantive business on the fifth consecutive day today following the opposition's continued ruckus over various issues including alleged bribery charges against a prominent business group and violence at Sambhal in Uttar Pradesh. Amid uproar, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha witnessed adjournments, first till noon and then for the day.

## ADGP Jammu

case-by-case review was conducted to evaluate the investigative progress and ensure the timely collection of evidence and filing of charge sheets; directions on strengthening legal processes, maintaining strict adherence to UAPA provisions to ensure successful prosecution and instructions on achieving inter-agency coordination.

ADGP further instructed the officers to expedite trials and secure convictions in UAPA cases and work on actionable

strategies devised to overcome challenges in evidence collection.

Jain also gave operational directives, whereby clear guidelines were issued to Investigating Officers (IOs) for enhancing efficiency, maintaining transparency, and prioritizing cases of sensitive nature.

The meeting was attended by senior police officers, including Shridhar Patil, DIG DKR Range; Sandeep Kumar Mehta, SSP Doda; Javaid Iqbal, SSP Kishtwar and all Gazetted Officers of Doda and Kishtwar.

## Mohan Bhagwat

Demographic studies reveal that societies with fertility rates below 2.1 face extinction, often without any external threats. Many languages and cultures have disappeared due to this" Bhagwat stated. "To prevent this, our population must remain above 2.1. Since fractional children are not possible, population science suggests a family should have at least three children." Referring to India's population policy, Bhagwat remarked that earlier frameworks from 1998 and 2002 emphasised maintaining demo-

graphic balance. He argued that these principles remain crucial today, underscoring the need for proactive measures to secure the nation's future. The RSS chief further said, "We consider the family as a vital unit that forms the foundation of society. Culture and values are inherited and passed from one generation to another, preserving systems and principles that are timeless and globally relevant, not just to Indians." Urging people to rise above caste and communal divisions, Bhagwat emphasised that, unlike cultures where individualism takes precedence, "Bharatiya sanskriti (Indian culture) believes in interconnectedness." "If someone is hungry, we step forward to feed them. Even if a beggar comes to our doorstep, we hand over money or food grains through the children in our family. In this way, we pass on values from one generation to the next. Sacrifice is our cornerstone, not selfishness or self-centeredness," the RSS chief said.

## Farooq Abdullah

Reaffirming the party's commitment to fulfilling its manifesto promises, he

expressed confidence in the leadership of Omar Abdullah to deliver on these commitments for the betterment of the people.

Abdullah said the Centre should put a stop to activities that can spark communal tension in the country, and treat Muslims as equals. "There is a need to stop (incidents like Sambhal). I will tell the government of India to stop (such acts) because they cannot throw the Muslims (of India) into the sea. Where will they throw 24 crore Muslims? Treat Muslims as equals. That is what our constitution stands for. If they fiddle with the constitution, how will India survive," he told reporters on the sidelines of the event.

The NC President urged the central government to prioritise robust safety measures to protect the sanctity of Muslim shrines and Masjids across the country.

Expressing deep concern over the ongoing survey of the 800-year-old shrine of Khwaja Gharib Nawaz Dargah Sharif in Ajmer, he emphasised its immense cultural and spiritual value. The former chief minister said that

such sacred sites represent India's shared heritage and play a pivotal role in preserving the secular fabric of the nation.

He cautioned that these matters must be handled with utmost sensitivity to safeguard communal harmony. The NC chief said no one was against the return of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley.

"Who is stopping Kashmiri Pandits from returning? Every political party has said they should return. It is their decision when they want to return. Our hearts are open for them. Even when I was the chief minister, when the situation was bad, we tried to bring them back," he said.

On demands seeking a review of the reservation policy in J&K, Abdullah said the government should review the same.

"We will tell the government to review it. Reservation is for the underprivileged sections so that they can come up as equals," he said. On Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha last week firing two government employees for their alleged terror links, Abdullah said the government "will keep an eye on ev-

erything and go into why the two employees were terminated".

He also welcomed the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire and called for an end to attacks on Gaza, Syria, and Iran.

"Ceasefire is a very good step, but it is necessary to stop attacks jointly being carried out by Israel and the US – in Gaza, Syria, and Iran, which are continuing even today. This is dangerous. They should immediately resort to a ceasefire. You must have watched the debates in the UN Security Council. If there is a purpose for the existence of Security Council, it should work on the directions given to Israel. They should enforce a ceasefire and allow humanitarian aid," the NC chief said.

He said that during his Umrah, he not only prayed for Kashmir but for the entire Muslim world. "May Allah resolve our problems! May Allah guide us to the right path! I prayed that we stay away from evil and for the end of religious hatred that has spread in our country. I prayed for unity and harmony," Abdullah said.



# How women can lead the transformation of film industry

## In building equitable, safe workplaces in film industry, women must lead the way

**M**arch 8, International Women's Day, is here to stay — from discount coupons in restaurants to editorial columns like this one, purple ribbons and pink balloons in public spaces, to even the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA) celebrating the day after making a mockery of women's issues in a public event just a couple of years ago. The origins of a day dedicated to women can be traced to the early 1900s. It's heartening that the day continues to be celebrated today.

Reality check: According to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2021, another generation of women will have to wait for gender parity. Why is it that even after a century of observing International Women's Day we are nowhere close to achieving gender parity across the globe? And if the goal is so far away, is there really a road ahead? I am going to attempt answering this question from the perspective of women in cinema — specifically in the Malayalam film industry.

First, there is a lack of resolve to address the workplace issues of women in cinema. In the five years since the Women in Cinema Collective (WCC) was formed, its very purpose has been under scrutiny. The biggest challenge we have faced is the lack of solidarity from our colleagues. Celebrating the accused and victimising the survivor or whistle-blower have been common practices. As Bhavana Menon, a survivor herself, rightly put it, when victims of sexual assault voice their experiences, they are looked down upon and often suspected of being disingenuous.

Lately, there has been some change in recognising issues affecting women in cinema, especially related to sexual harassment, by industry associations. But this is the outcome of constant public and legal scrutiny. There is more posturing than any real desire to bring about change. Let us remind ourselves that sharing the social media posts of a survivor does not take away the fact that she and her supporters were shamed by the very trade bodies of which they were once an integral part.

Second, grievance redressal systems are totally absent in this sector. Any abuse thrives because of two reasons, fear and silence, and the abuser will do whatever it takes to maintain both. The absence of redressal systems makes abuse a routine affair and normalises it in the workplace. When trade bodies refuse to take responsibility — their excuse is the informal nature of the sector — the state government becomes an important stakeholder in ensuring equity and safety for women. While the Kerala government did take proactive steps early on, it is disheartening to see the lacklustre pace, limited public accountability, and absence of tangible solutions. Even women's legitimate right to safety at the workplace, through the implementation of the PoSH Act 2013, hangs in balance.

Editorial | Malayalam actor Bhavana breaks a si-



### WOMEN'S DAY

PADMAPRIYA JANAKIRAMAN

lence, underlines need for institutions to support victims of sexual violence

Third, deep-seated patriarchy and chauvinism lend themselves naturally to unequal opportunities. This reflects in the content and stories of cinema, the vast disparity in remuneration, inequitable access to facilities, glass ceilings and constant othering by male colleagues. Celebrating women and their role in cinema is always an afterthought because, unfortunately, that is the position they have been relegated to.

The future for women in cinema is no clear windscreen, but it is not hopeless either.

One absolute truth is that no matter what the adversity, if we want change for the better, women have to speak up. The cursory changes we have seen over the last five years have taken place because women spoke up for themselves. Engaging in flexible solidarity, posturing for the men and conducting stage shows on their behalf will take us nowhere. The burden of truth is unfairly placed on our shoulders, but that is the way to lead. The recent #MeToo wave in Kerala and the arrest of director Liju Krishna, accused of rape, point to the fact that there will be personal and professional repercussions, but this alone will not be the catalyst for change. As Mother Teresa says, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples".

Achieving gender parity in cinema is going to be a long, arduous battle and for that reason, a watchdog and gender advocacy collective like the WCC is imperative in the media and entertainment world. Overtime at the WCC we have exchanged notes, collaborated with and received support from colleagues in other film industries and gender activists in India. A step forward would be to make this soli-

darity and support system more global.

Women's movements in the past, whether for suffrage or labour rights, have always had international dimensions. In 1917, when Russia enacted suffrage legislation for women, gender activists in other parts of the world held it up as a mirror for their own governments. This is true of the #MeToo movement as well. Fostering global ties for talent exchange, content-making and best practice-sharing in building equitable workspaces will strengthen and hasten the pace and quality of change.

Meanwhile, governments and courts have to step in, as there is a lack of solidarity amongst trade bodies and the industry has a deeply patriarchal power structure. Having an equitable and safe workplace is our constitutional right. In this age, the informal and unorganised nature of the industry can be no reason for the inadequate representation of women in the creative sector.

Non-profit bodies, media and research organisations should also play their part in bringing about change — there is limited understanding of how the entertainment sector works and the status of women in cinema and media. Being one of the most understudied and, therefore, underreported workplaces makes it difficult to draw concrete, long-term and data-driven solutions for the sector and plan advocacy for the same.

Picture this: 15,000 women garment workers marching through New York City in 1908, protesting against adverse working conditions, including low wages, extended work hours and sexual harassment. That was the radical reason that eventually led to March 8 being observed as International Women's Day. As we celebrate "phenomenal women" today, let's cheer for resistance, breaking the fear and for speaking up.



# PM Modi Calls Upon Police To Convert Challenge Posed Due To Digital Frauds, Cyber Crimes And AI Into Opportunity

New Dehli:

PM Modi calls upon police to convert challenge posed due to digital frauds, cyber crimes and AI into opportunity. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called upon the police to convert the challenge posed due to threats like digital frauds, cybercrimes and Artificial intelligence (AI) technology into an opportunity. He asked the police to harness country's strengths in Artificial Intelligence and 'Aspirational India'. Mr Modi was speaking on the concluding day of All India Conference of Directors General and Inspectors General of Police at Bhubaneswar in Odisha today. The Prime Minister noted that wide ranging discussions were held during the three-day conference, on national and international dimensions of security challenges. He expressed satisfaction on the counter strategies which emerged from the discussions.

Mr. Modi called upon the police to adopt the mantra of SMART policing

by becoming strategic, meticulous, adaptable, reliable, and transparent. Appreciating the initiatives taken in urban policing, he suggested that each of the initiatives be implemented entirely in 100 cities of the country. Mr Modi called for the use of technology to reduce the workload of the constabulary. He called on the police to align with the vision of a developed India and modernize its approach.

The Prime Minister distributed President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service to officers of the Intelligence Bureau during the valedictory session.

Discussions during the three-day conference covered issues like counter terrorism, Left Wing Extremism, cyber-crime, economic security, immigration coastal security, and narco-trafficking. Deliberations were also held on emerging security concerns along the border with Bangladesh and Myanmar. Prime Minister Modi provided valuable insights and set a future roadmap for policing and national security.



## Overall Coal Production In November 2024 Reaches 90.62 Million Tonnes



New Dehli:

Coal Ministry has achieved a milestone in November, with overall coal production reaching 90.62 million tonnes compared to 84.52 MT in the same month last year. This marks a 7.20 percent growth in coal production. Meanwhile, coal production for 2024-25 up to November has reached 628.03 MT, compared to 591.32 MT during the same period in 2023-24. This reflects a growth of 6.21 percent. Coal Ministry said in a statement that it remains committed to meeting the nation's energy requirements by focusing on increasing production, improving dispatch efficiency, and ensuring seamless coal availability across the country.



# Voting Underway In Romania To Elect New Parliament

Web Desk

Voting is underway in Romania to elect the new Parliament. More than 18 million Romanian citizens, including those living abroad are casting ballots to fill 332 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and 137 in the Senate.

Polling opened this morning across country's 42 constituencies and will close later tonight Indian Standard Time. Additionally, 950 polling stations abroad are operating over the weekend.

Over 8,000 candidates from 31 political parties, alliances, and 19 national minority organisations are in the fray. Major parties in the race include the Social Democratic Party, SOS Romania, National Liberal Party, Alliance for the Union of Romanians, Right Force, Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania, and Save Romania Union.

Parties must secure at least 5 per cent of the national vote or over 20 per cent in at least four constituencies to gain parliamentary representation.

The polling comes as the country was thrown into turmoil after a top court ordered a recount of the first round of last week's Presidential Election won by in-



dependent candidate Calin Georgescu. A run-off in Presidential Election is slated for 8th of this month.

# Donald Trump Nominates Indian-American Kash Patel To Lead FBI

Web Desk:

US President-elect Donald Trump has nominated Indian-American Kash Patel to lead the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). With this appointment, Mr. Patel became the second Indian American to be picked in his cabinet. In a social media post last night, Mr. Trump said Kash Patel will serve as the next director of the FBI. He said Kash is a brilliant lawyer, investigator, and America First fighter who has spent his career exposing corruption, defending justice, and protecting the American people. Earlier, Mr. Trump picked Indian-American scientist Jay Bhattacharya as the director of the National Institutes of Health, the country's top health research and funding institutions.





AWAMI ETILAAT

WEDNESDAY 04 DECEMBER 2024

## BJP targets regional parties and calls for outreach to the poor in all communities. Sabka saath may need more

To begin with, the locale was a message. At the BJP's National Executive meeting that concluded in Hyderabad on Sunday, there was an emphasis on the party's programme of expanding in the country's south and a bid to project the BJP as the main opponent of the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi – Telangana is scheduled to go to polls next year. At the "Vijay Sankalp" rally held afterwards, PM Narendra Modi spoke of Hyderabad, "Bhagyanagar" as he called it, as the fitting home for the idea of "Aatma Nirbhar" or self-reliant India, and held aloft the promise to fulfil Telangana's needs and aspirations ("aavashyaktaon aur aakankshaon ki purti") under a "double engine sarkar". But there were other messages too, beyond Telangana. For one, the repeated reference to "dynasty" and "dynastic parties" was politically pointed. Of course, the BJP has spoken of dynasty before — much of its attack on the Congress, down the years, has centred on the institutionalisation of family rule in that party. Yet in Hyderabad, dynasty was spoken of as an overarching theme that folded in a host of other political ills, from casteism and regionalism to appeasement and radicalisation.

At the national executive meet, there was also an attempt to broaden the dynasty-centric attack to bring into its range the regional parties, which are mostly family-ruled — that's the second discernible shift in the rhetoric in Hyderabad. It may come from a recognition that, as in Telangana, in its next phase of political-electoral spread, the BJP will need to primarily take on, not the Congress, but the regional party. And the political record so far shows that, as a general rule, the BJP performs far better against the Congress than it does against the regional parties. The prime minister's reported nudge to his partymen to pitch the tent wider was significant too — reach out to deprived and downtrodden sections in communities other than Hindus, he said. The prime ministerial exhortation may be read as a bid to appropriate rather than to include, but it may also be that the PM realises that from here on, the BJP's growth can only come from a softening of its edges.

The BJP was meeting in Hyderabad in the shadow of grim events — Nupur Sharma's remarks against the Prophet had forced the BJP-led government on to the backfoot, and the anxieties that raised their head in the aftermath of the murder of a tailor in Udaipur have pointed to the need for a communal calm less fragile. Meanwhile, in Maharashtra, the BJP has wreaked revenge on erstwhile ally Shiv Sena, and acquired a government, but the long drawn out toppling has also touched off concerns about a will-to-conquer that stops at nothing, including the weaponisation of central agencies. Even as the BJP recalibrates its political emphases and makes strategic shifts, therefore, it must take on board some notes of caution. The politics of majoritarianism and polarisation endangers the nation's resilience. The BJP needs to understand that communities are larger than a conglomeration of beneficiaries and Direct Benefit Transfer isn't a magic wand that can dispel all deepening anxieties. Two, pursuit of electoral victory at all costs can come back to haunt a party that aims for "sabka saath" and, newly heard in Hyderabad, lays claim to "P2G2", pro-people good governance.

# Vasudev Devadasan writes: The conflict between free speech and consent



DEGREES OF PRIVACY AND FREEDOM

VASUDEV DEVADASAN

The Delhi High Court in *Mrs. X v Union of India* is confronted with a familiar problem. A woman whose nude photos were shared online without her consent approached the Court to block this content. While the Court has impleaded the Delhi Police's cyber cell and various online platforms to restrict the content, the case highlights the need for courts, law enforcement, and technology platforms to have a coordinated response to the sharing of non-consensual intimate images (NCII) online. Publishing NCII is a criminal offence under the Information Technology Act 2000, with platforms doing their best to filter out such content. While a criminal conviction is desirable, the more urgent need for victims is to stop the spread of this illegal content. The Intermediary Guidelines 2021 provide a partial solution. They empower victims to complain directly to any website that has allowed the uploading of non-consensual images or videos of a person in a state of nudity or engaging in a sexual act. This includes content that has been digitally altered to depict the person as such. The website must remove the content within 24 hours of receiving a complaint, or risk facing criminal charges. However, this approach relies on victims identifying and sharing every URL hosting their intimate images. Further, the same images may be re-uploaded at different locations or by different user accounts in the future. While the Intermediary Guidelines do encourage large social media plat-

forms to proactively remove certain types of content, the focus is on child pornography and rape videos. Victims of NCII abuse have few options other than lodging complaints every time their content surfaces, forcing them to approach courts.

The fact that both technology companies and governments want to restrict NCII represents an opportunity for cooperation. For example, Meta recently built a tool to curtail the spread of NCII ([www.stopncii.org](http://www.stopncii.org)). The tool relies on a "hashing" technology to match known NCII against future uploads. A victim whose intimate images have been shared without their consent can use the tool to create a "hash" (or unique identifier) of the offending image, which is shared with the platform. The platform then compares this user-generated hash with the hashes of all other images on its site, allowing for the identification and takedown of content identical to that reported by the victim. The victim's private images stay with them, with only the hash being added to a database to guard against future uploads. Similar technology is already used against child-sex abuse material (CSAM) with promising results. Experts note that if well-designed and administered, other websites could eventually use this NCII hash database to identify illegal content they may be unwillingly hosting. Victims could report NCII abuse at a centralised location and have it taken down across a range of websites. The government can also play a role in facilitating a redressal mechanism. For example, Australia has

appointed an "e-Safety Commissioner" who receives complaints against NCII and coordinates between complainants, websites, and individuals who posted the content — with the Commissioner empowered to issue "removal notices" against illegal content. Pairing a hash database with an independent body like the Commissioner may significantly reduce the spread of NCII.

Independence is essential, as such image-matching technology could be used for surveillance or to simply remove unpopular (but not illegal) content from the internet. The CBI has already reportedly asked Microsoft to deploy its "PhotoDNA" tool (an image-matching software built to identify CSAM) for investigatory purposes. In fact, to counter such risks, the hash database for CSAM is not maintained by either Microsoft or any government but rather by independent organisations. Similarly, Meta has partnered with the Revenge Porn Helpline to administer its NCII tool.

The use of automated tools also raises free speech concerns that lawful content may accidentally be taken down. Automatic filters often ignore context. Content that may be illegal in one context may not be illegal in another. This is precisely why free speech advocates are wary of using automated tools to remove harmful content online. While there exist tricky cases where courts may be required to intervene (for example, content depicting a public figure committing sexual assault), the vast majority of NCII has no public interest component and can be taken down quickly.



# Jugjugg Jeeyo director Raj Mehta: 'Balancing emotion, humour without crossing the line is difficult'

**Jugjugg Jeeyo director Raj Mehta says movies will always be subjected to nitpicking, but one should strive to not cross the line.**



**Mumbai:** Addressing topics like infidelity and divorce in a family comedy can be a tall order, believes director Raj Mehta, who says the makers of his latest release Jugjugg Jeeyo were "conscious" about not offending anyone's sentiments. A progressive take on modern-day relationships, Jugjugg Jeeyo stars Anil Kapoor, Neetu Kapoor, Varun Dhawan and Kiara Advani. The filmmaker said movies will always be subjected to nitpicking, but one should strive to not cross the line. Also read |Director Raj Mehta defends how divorce, loveless marriag-

es have been dealt with in Jugjugg Jeeyo: 'I won't change a thing' "It is a family film so there are things that (you are careful about) and even generally we were consciously trying not to offend anyone or go below the belt. We have enough sensibility to understand the difference between right and wrong. "Everyone has their own opinion and they dissect, but as makers we are always careful. Trying to balance emotion and humour is creatively very difficult. You have to make sure you are not crossing the line," Mehta told PTI in an interview. Produced by Dharma

Productions, Jugjugg Jeeyo has earned over Rs 68 crore at the domestic box office since its release on June 24. The director, who made his debut with 2019's Good Newwz, said it was "gratifying" to see the audience give so much love to his latest movie. "We did a few theatre visits, sat with the audience to watch the film and they were all laughing at the right places. It is gratifying to see the reaction. The box office figures are important. However, as a director, what is more gratifying is the kind of messages that we have been receiving," he added.

What ties Good Newwz and Jugjugg Jeeyo is use of humour as a device to discuss taboo topics. Starring Akshay Kumar, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Diljit Dosanjh and Advani, Good Newwz revolved around two couples opting for in vitro fertilisation. His sole purpose was to make an entertaining film, even as it dealt with sensitive matters, said Raj Mehta. "We were trying to make an entertaining film. Tell the story of this family and bring in all the ingredients to make it an entertaining package. We are not trying to make a statement or analysis. If the audi-

ence derives something, it is good. "I am not trying to develop a style here. I feel the two films that I made had slightly similar overlapping narratives so that's why it seems like that. But hopefully my next film Selfiee is different," the director said. The stellar performance by the ensemble cast, which also includes Maniesh Paul and Prajakta Koli, is one of the contributing factors to the success of Jugjugg Jeeyo. "We have tried to do justice to all the characters because it is an ensemble. Anil sir's character of Bheem itself was such

that it stands out. It was in a way close to Anil sir in real life," he said. Asked if he had any plans to make a standalone film on Bheem, Mehta said a spin-off is a possibility. "The character is interesting enough to have a film of its own and so a sequel and a standalone spin-off on Bheem is possible. (But) I will have to think about it." Work is underway on Raj Mehta's next film Selfiee, starring Akshay Kumar and Emraan Hashmi. The movie is a remake of the 2019 Malayalam film Driving Licence, starring Prithviraj Sukumaran and Suraj Venjaramoodu.



# How Peter Brook's 'Mahabharata' helped us to shake off colonial ways of looking at epics

## He freed productions from the constraints of space and time, made room for reflections on gender and ecology



### HIS MANY TRANSGRESSIONS

KRISHNAN UNNI P

**P**eter Brook, one of the world's most innovative theatre directors who perfected the art of staging powerful drama in bizarre venues, died at the age of 97. (Reuters)

The death of Peter Brook has brought forth many questions for actors, directors, practitioners and theatre scholars everywhere. One major question is: Will theatre be as efficient as before in questioning conservative values and practices? As Brook crossed several borders for his productions, redefining himself with every journey, global theatre is eager to look for similar adventures.

More than six decades ago, Brook started revolutionising British theatre. His dramaturgy broke from stringent parameters, following the appearance of absurd and existentialist thoughts in theatre. When questioned about this, his answer was simple: "Our drama needs to change." His production of Jean-Paul Sartre's *The Respectful Prostitute* and *Men Without Shadows* in London opened new pathways of understanding existentialism. British dramatists after World War II focussed mainly on family dramas with an existential tinge. Brook differed from his contemporaries by pointing out that the final sense of alienation is within the actor.

In *Premium Now* [Peter Brook tried to destroy, recreate us. I wasn't willing to be destroyed]

Brook did not remain within any particular school of drama. His focus was the renovation of theatre, space and time, and the modalities of appropriation. He meticulously appropriated Jean Cocteau and Antonin Artaud on stage. Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty found new

meaning with Brook. By critiquing the old practices of costume designing and the role of the body, Brook's actors created a visible "difference". This difference was seen in different productions in various countries. Like Beckett, he believed in the flexibility of the stage; but differed from him on the static presence and movements of actors.

The Mahabharata was first staged in 1985. This was a time of doubts and confusion in various productions. In Mumbai, its reception was phenomenal. India was slowly moving toward reconstructing the epics and legends at that time as television became the popular medium. Brook never adhered to any formalistic pattern of drama in his adaptation of *The Mahabharata*. The scenic and theatrical differences in the play were carved out from the multiple lands and visions with which the dramatist was well acquainted. Gender, above all, became a key factor in Brook's adaptation.

Delving deep into Brook's dramaturgy, one can find three important aspects that distinguish him: Vision, style and decolonising themes. The idea of decolonisation is not well-applied to plays, unlike in other genres, such as novels. Ngugi wa Thiong'o's plays are an exception. Brook systematically stepped out of his national identity to step into different lands and unravel the structures of drama. For him, the colonial surge lying deep in the unconscious of several dramatists made them parochial. His obvious references here are to Harold Pinter and Tom Stoppard. He spoke for a

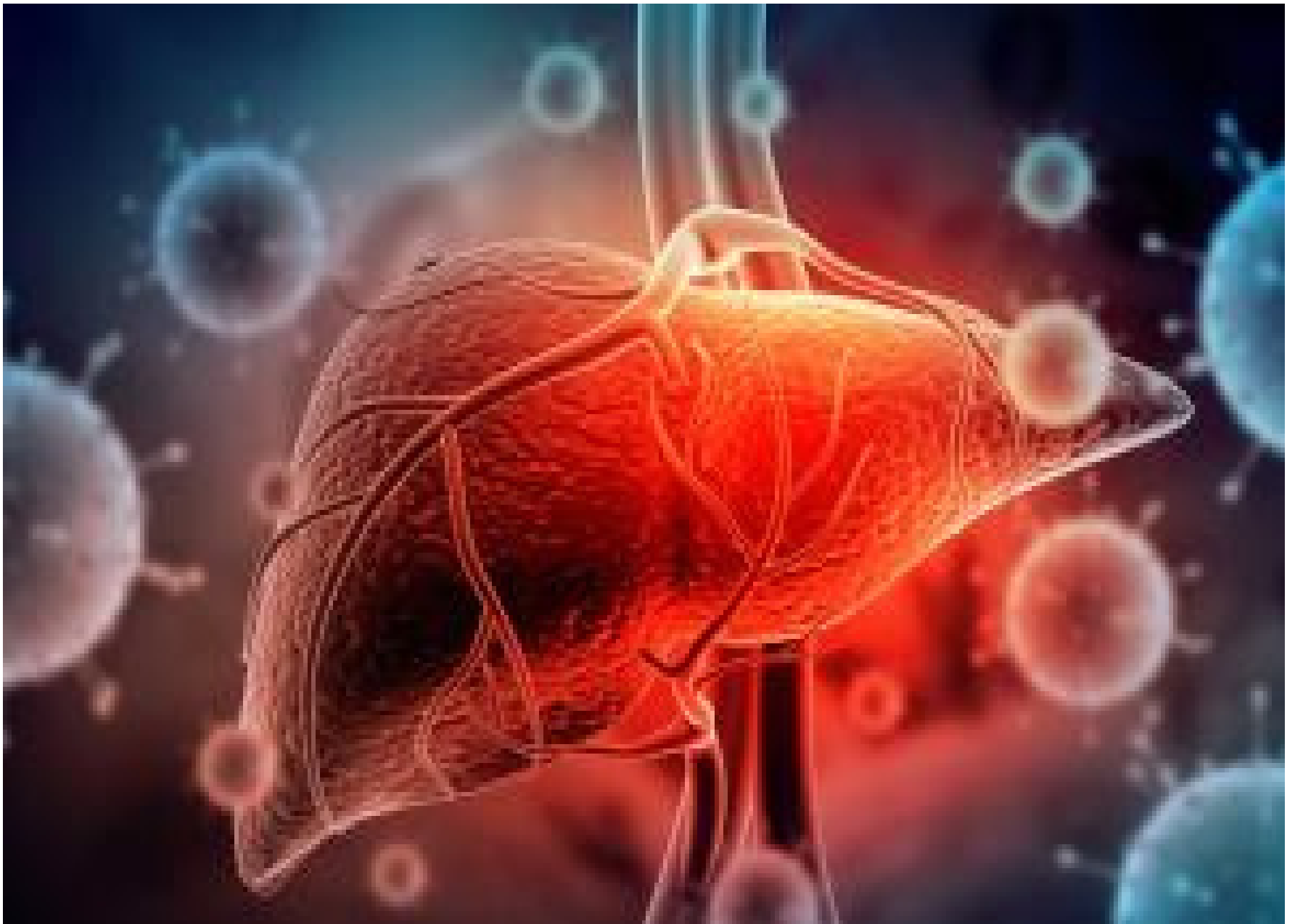
global drama. Theatre, he believed, needs to resonate with, appropriate and subvert the standards set before it by authoritarian structures.

India is deeply indebted to Brook not just for his adaptation of *The Mahabharata*. In his theatre, he opened up space for reflecting on gender and ecological issues. The transformation of the body and its language is dependent on ecological and topographical issues. Brook never wanted the same adaptation of *The Mahabharata* in Bengal, Assam and in Mumbai. The subtle nuances of language and the quasi-realist methods of dialogue construction were intended to shake off the colonial ways of looking at the epics. Every adaptation for him was a new text. It is from Brook we learned how to overcome the paradoxes of internal colonialism.

One can never forget Brook's movie *The Lord of the Flies*, an adaptation of the famous novel by William Golding. In this movie, Brook experimented with questions of cruelty, savagery and animosity, which he had done previously in *Marat/ Sade*. In the film, he revisited sadism as an intrinsic human condition. Brook was very vocal about the new emergence of sadism. For him, the racial and religious divisions in the contemporary world have their roots in sadism, which are exploited by certain nations to fulfil their agendas. In the future, the name Peter Brook will always be uttered at the entrance of theatres. When the curtain rustles and when we hear the footsteps on the stage, we will recollect Brook and his many transgressions.



# Adenovirus common in kids with unexplained acute hepatitis, studies show



**New Dehli:** In two new studies, researchers isolated human adenovirus from the vast majority of children diagnosed as having acute hepatitis but couldn't determine whether the ubiquitous virus typically associated with transient respiratory, gastrointestinal, and conjunctival illnesses was the cause.

The studies, one from Alabama and one from the United Kingdom, were published yesterday in the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM), the latest efforts to pinpoint the cause of pediatric acute hepatitis outbreaks that began on multiple continents in late 2021 and 2022.

Not enough evidence to implicate virus

A team led by University

of Alabama researchers tested the blood samples of 15 previously healthy children hospitalized for acute hepatitis from Oct 1, 2021, to Feb 28, 2022. The cause was identified in 6 children, while 9 had cases of unknown origin. Eight of the nine children (89%) with unexplained hepatitis tested positive for human adenovirus. The eight patients and another child referred to the hospital for follow-up were included in the analysis. The median age was 2 years.

Liver biopsies showed mild-to-moderate active hepatitis in six patients, some with cholestasis (reduced or no bile flow), but immunohistochemical examination and electron microscopy revealed no sign of human adenovi-

rus. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests identified human adenovirus in the liver tissue of three patients, and sequencing showed three different human adenovirus type 41 variants.

None of the nine children tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, and none had received COVID-19 vaccine.

Two children had liver transplants, and the rest recovered with supportive care. "Whether human adenovirus was causative remains unclear," the researchers wrote. "Sequencing results suggest that if human adenovirus was causative, this was not an outbreak driven by a single strain."

14% underwent liver transplant

In the United Kingdom,

which has reported the most such cases, researchers from the Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust led a study of 44 children aged 10 years and younger referred to a pediatric liver transplant center with acute hepatitis from Jan 1 to Apr 11, 2022. The median age was 4 years, and the most common symptoms were jaundice (93%), vomiting (54%), and diarrhea (32%).

Twenty-seven of the 30 patients (90%) who underwent molecular testing were positive for human adenovirus. Six patients (14%) developed liver failure and received a liver transplant. All the children recovered.

Of the 39 children who underwent molecular

testing, 11 (28%) tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, while 5 of 13 (38%) tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies. The authors said none of the children, to their knowledge, had received COVID vaccination.

"Human adenovirus was isolated in most of the children, but its role in the pathogenesis of this illness has not been established," the authors wrote.

In a related NEJM editorial, Saul Karpen, MD, PhD, of Emory University, said that the studies did not provide enough evidence to implicate human adenovirus. "Alternatives to consider include human adenovirus, 41 potentially serving as an immunologic activator or even as an innocent,

readily detected bystander," he wrote. "Crucial unknowns must be resolved before etiologic guilt can be assigned or practice guidance regarding the initiation of therapy can be provided."

From Oct 1, 2021, to Jul 13, 2022, 338 children with unexplained acute hepatitis were reported to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from 42 US states and territories, according to an update yesterday. The data reflect 6 new cases.

In a Jun 22 technical report, the CDC noted that the median age of patients is 2 years. Twenty (6%) of 305 patients have needed a liver transplant, and 11 (4%) have died of causes that remain under investigation.



# Rupee's Carnage Continues, Falls To New Record Closing Low Against Dollar

The rupee fell by 41 paise to close at a fresh lifetime low of 79.36 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday amid a strong greenback overseas and unrelenting foreign fund outflows.



**Mumbai:** The rupee fell by 41 paise to close at a fresh lifetime low of 79.36 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday amid a strong greenback overseas and unrelenting foreign fund outflows. At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 79.04 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 79.02 and a low of 79.38.

It finally settled at 79.36 (provisional), down 41 paise over its previous close. On Monday, the rupee had closed at 78.95 against the US dollar. The Indian rupee hit a fresh record low against the US Dollar on Tuesday on the back of stronger dollar and weaker-than-expected domestic data, said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP

Paribas. India's merchandise exports in June rose by 16.78 per cent year-on-year to \$37.94 billion while the trade deficit ballooned to a record \$25.63 billion on account of a steep increase in gold and crude oil imports, according to the government's preliminary data released on Monday. "Rupee is expected to trade on a negative note on a firm

tone in the US Dollar, elevated oil prices, and weak global market sentiments," Choudhary said. Dollar may strengthen on expectations of aggressive rate hikes by the Federal Reserve, Choudhary said, adding that the hike in import duty on gold may support rupee to some extent as it may dent import demand for gold. Rupee may trade in the range of

78.50-80 in the next couple of sessions. The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was up 0.89 per cent at 106.07. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, fell 1.10 per cent to \$112.25 per barrel. PromotedListen to the latest songs, only on JioSaavn. com

On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 100.42 points or 0.19 per cent lower at 53,134.35, while the broader NSE Nifty declined 24.50 points or 0.15 per cent to 15,810.85. Foreign institutional investors remained net sellers in the capital market on Monday as they offloaded shares worth 2,149.56 crore, as per exchange data.



# SII Requests Health Ministry To Include Cy-Tb Injection In TB Elimination Programme



**New Delhi:** The Serum Institute had recently informed the ministry that the firm would provide Cy-Tb injection at Rs 350 plus GST per dose, an official source stated. The letter for the inclusion of Cy-Tb was written by Prakash Kumar Singh, Director, Government

and Regulatory Affairs at SII. Serum Institute has requested the Union health ministry for inclusion of their Cy-Tb injection for detection of Latent-TB in the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) to support TB free-India by 2025, official sources

said on Monday. The Serum Institute had recently informed the ministry that the firm would provide Cy-Tb injection at Rs 350 plus GST per dose, an official source stated. The letter for the inclusion of Cy-Tb was written by Prakash Kumar Singh, Director,

Government and Regulatory Affairs at SII. The Cy-Tb injection was granted market authorisation by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) on May 9, 2022. In response to Singh's request, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) had

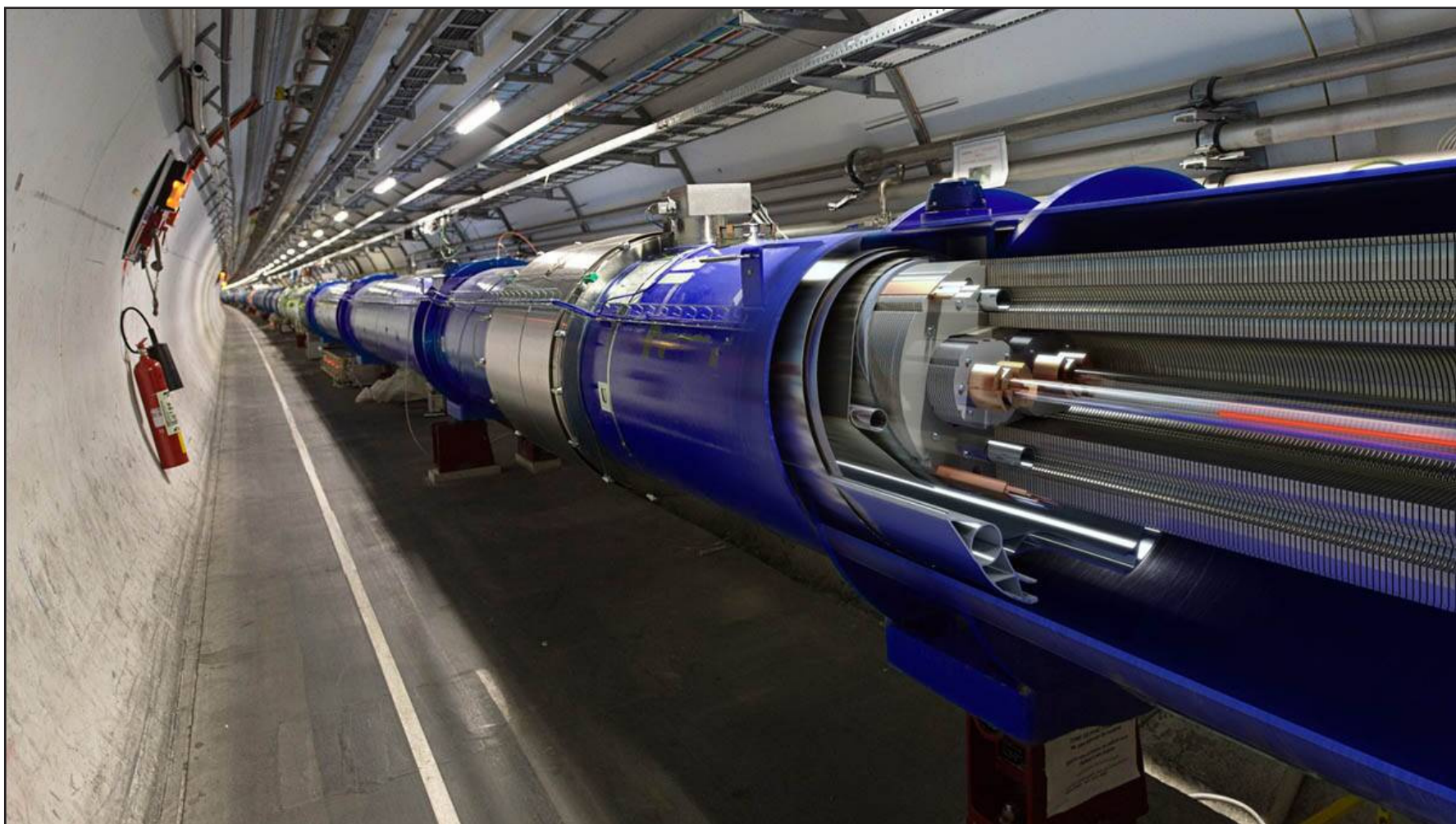
sought the price of Cy-Tb injection. Serum Institute has informed MoHFW that the firm will provide Cy-Tb injection at Rs 350 plus GST per dose, an official source stated. According to official sources, the ministry has not taken any decision on procurement of this

product as there are few programmatic challenges in Cy-Tb kit of Serum Institute. India is committed to eliminate tuberculosis by 2025, five years ahead of the target for TB elimination set by Sustainable Development Goals 2030.



# 5 things you need to know about the Large Hadron Collider

**As CERN's Large Hadron Collider gears up to work at previously unprecedented energy levels, here are 5 things you need to know about the massive and complex machine.**



**New Delhi:** A 3D cut-out of the Large Hadron Collider's magnetic dipole. (Image credit: CERN)

The world's largest particle accelerator, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is back in action since April for its third run after a three-year break for upgrades. Nearly ten years after scientists announced the discovery of the Higgs Boson, the particle accelerator is about to start smashing particles together at unprecedented energy levels. The European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) announced that starting today (July 5), the LHC will run 24 hours a day for almost four years at a record energy level near 13.6 trillion electronvolts, according to AFP.

Also Read | NASA is developing swimming robots to look for alien life  
Its work will involve sending beams of protons, which are positively charged particles present in the nucleus of atoms, speeding towards each other at nearly the speed of light in the 27-kilometre ring of the LHC. Scientists will record and analyse the collisions of the

particles in the two beams as part of a set of experiments, which will be used to study dark matter, dark energy and other mysteries of the universe.

As the LHC gears up to work at massive energy levels, here are 5 things that you need to know about it.

LHC was built to study minuscule sub-atomic particles which are the smallest known units of matter and the building blocks of all things. But the collider itself is the largest and most complex machine ever built by man.

Also Read | China's Tianwen-1 orbiter has mapped the entire surface of Mars  
CERN built LHC between 1998 and 2008 in collaboration with over 10,000 scientists from hundreds of universities and laboratories. The machine lies in a more than 100-metres deep tunnel with a circumference of 27 kilometres.

1.6 billion collisions a second  
At full power, trillions of protons will race around the LHC accelerator ring more than 11,245 times a second, since they travel at 99,999 per cent the speed of

light. When the machine initially began operations, that meant it could engineer about 600 million collisions every second.

But this time, the proton beams will be narrowed to less than 10 microns, which is about the width of ten bacterial cells, to increase the rate of collisions, according to CERN's head of accelerators and technology Mike Lamont, who spoke to AFP. With the thinner beam, scientists are aiming at delivering 1.6 billion collisions per second.

Many times hotter than the sun  
The collision of the two beams generates temperatures more than 100,000 times hotter than the hottest part of the sun, which is the core. But that heat will be concentrated in a very small space. Even though such temperatures are being generated, the machine's accelerator ring will be kept at a cool minus 271.3 degrees celsius using superfluid helium.

Massive amounts of data  
CERN's DATA Centre stores more than

30 petabytes of data per year from LHC experiments. To put that into context, that is enough data to fill 1.2 million Blu-ray discs or 250 years of HD video. The Data Centre has over 100 petabytes of this data permanently archived on tape.

Just the first chapter  
LHC is the biggest and most complex machine in the world and it may have paved the way for some of the most important scientific discoveries in recent times, including the Higgs Boson. But CERN has plans for a future machine that will dwarf the LHC and this is called the Future Circular Collider.

In 2018, CERN released the proposal for a 100-kilometre-circumference Future Circular Collider. Compared to the 13.6 trillion electronvolts energy level of LHC, the Future Circular Collider will work at energy levels of up to 100 trillion electronvolts. The Future Circular Collider is an even bigger machine aimed at ensuring the seamless continuation of the world's particle physics programme in the post-LHC era.



# OPPO Reno 8 Pro to have the Golden Ratio from Sacred Geometry



**New Delhi:** OPPO said that it employed an aluminum frame and Gorilla Glass 5 for its construction to be durable. Additionally, the camera module has been integrated with the rest of the handset's back thanks to heat-forged and molded glass that creates an ergonomically streamlined unibody. This new design is the result of more than a hundred revisions and more than 400 days of work. The company shared today that Reno 8 Pro's design is based on the Golden Ratio (1:1.618), a mathematical proportion that is in its nature aesthetically attractive. OPPO added that its de-

signers used the same proportion to section the rear camera module on the handset—both laterally and vertically—to create a similarly pleasing aesthetic. To create the Reno 8 Pro's streamlined unibody design, OPPO's engineers observed how users hold their phones. The entire back of the phone is made of a single piece of glass that has been heat-forged and pressure molded to form the soft curves needed for the camera module. To ensure smoothness, a graphite mold was created and hand-polished with three diamond sheets of varying roughness. OPPO used

eight nanometer-scale polishing processes to remove wrinkles caused by high-temperature forging and molding around the camera module, ensuring a surface fineness of 1-2 nanometers. Additionally, the camera module was created by OPPO's designers to mirror the Reno 8 Series' image capabilities. The crew created the famous binocular camera setup to imitate two film reels as a tribute to the classic. This also uses the infinity sign and the number "8" to signify the smartphone's position in the Reno Series and Likewise, the nearby ring flash is visible and seamlessly integrates into the

lens. A system capable of producing appropriate fill light when the camera is in use and has been built using two circular dual flashes. The OPPO Reno 8 Pro will be available in two colors: Glazed Green and Glazed Black while the Reno 8 will be available in two colors: Shimmering Gold, which is achieved through a precise combination of dual textures and coatings, as well as OPPO Glow printing, and Shimmering Black, which is distinct from pure black because it resembles a starry night sky. According to the company, the 4K Ultra Night Video fea-

ture will provide professional-grade night image quality with sharp details and vibrant colors. The company has set the phone's launch in Malaysia for July 21st, even though it has yet to formally tease further features in India and has teasers for feature revelation until July. There, it was verified that the phone sports a streamlined unibody design, where the camera and back cover are perfectly combined into a new, attractive one-piece design, as well as 80W SuperVOOC charging, which can charge the phone up to 50% in 11 minutes.





## UAE Ambassador To India Abdalnasser Alshaali Offers to Host Cricket Match Between India & Pakistan

New Dehli (AIR) :

The UAE Ambassador to India, Abdalnasser Alshaali, has offered to host the high-profile cricket match between India and Pakistan.

In a media interview, Abdalnasser Alshaali expressed the desire to host the action-packed clash in UAE. He said, We have always hosted such games. The UAE is open for business and open for sports.

This comes amid uncertainty surrounding the ICC Champions Trophy in 2025. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has said it will not send the Indian team to Pakistan due to security concerns. On the other hand, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) insists on hosting the entire

tournament in Pakistan.

The BCCI had proposed a hybrid model, where India's matches would be played in a neutral country, but the PCB has rejected this idea.

Last week, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal reiterated the BCCI's concerns, saying it is unlikely that the Indian team will travel to Pakistan.

BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla also emphasized that the safety of Indian players is a top priority. India has not toured Pakistan since 2008, when they participated in the Asia Cup. The two arch-rivals last played a bilateral series in 2012-13 in India, comprising white-ball matches. After that, India and Pakistan have primarily faced each other in ICC tournaments and Asia Cups.



## Asian Women's Handball Championship Opens In The National Capital



**New Dehli: (AIR)** The Asian Women's Handball Championship has begun in New Delhi's Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium today. India is hosting the handball competition for the first time. Eight teams from the continent are taking part in the 20th edition of the tournament.

In today's matches, the Hosts defeated Hong Kong China 31-28, in their opening group B match this evening. Japan thrashed Iran 34-14 in a Group B match, while in Group A matches Kazakhstan beat China 28-26 and South Korea

thrashed Singapore 47-5.

The top four teams from the Championship will qualify for IHF Women's Handball World Championship 2025, which will be held in Germany and the Netherlands in November and December next year.

## Indian Super League: Jamshedpur Football Club Defeats Mohammedan Sports Club



**New Dehli: (AIR)**

In the Indian Super League, ISL Football, Jamshedpur Football Club, FC, returned to winning ways with a commanding 3-1 victory over Mohammedan Sports

Club, SC at the JRD Tata Sports Complex, Jamshedpur, yesterday. Goals from Mohammed Sanan, Javier Siverio, and Stephen Eze sealed the win, while Mohammed Irshad scored a late consolation for the

visitors. Sanan opened the scoring in the 53rd minute with a stunning strike, followed by Siverio's opportunistic goal after a goalkeeper error. Eze added the third from a corner in the 79th minute.