

## Jaishankar visits Beijing for the first time in five years to meet Wang Yi



**Divya Delhi :** External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will visit Beijing. This will be Jaishankar's first visit to China since the 2020 military stalemate along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh strained relations. Before attending the SCO conference in Tianjin, Jaishankar will meet with Wang Yi. The two leaders are scheduled to discuss rare earth supply to India, the Dalai Lama's succession, India-Pakistan tensions, and direct flight resumption. India and China have taken several steps to restore relations after disengaging soldiers from the last of the two face-off sites in October. Rajnath Singh attended the SCO defence ministers' summit in Qingdao three weeks before Aishankar's visit. India refused to adopt the text without referring to the China leads the SCO, which has nine permanent members, including India and Pakistan. China hosts SCO meetings as chair. Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang conducted the border resolution Special Representatives.

## India and Brazil reaffirm strategic partnership with roadmap

Rajesh Chauhan

**Divya Delhi:** In a joint statement, the two nations reaffirmed their commitment to bolster the India-Brazil Strategic Partnership, describing their shared vision as rooted in common values and aimed at advancing peace, prosperity and sustainable development. PM Modi and President Lula welcomed growing military collaboration, including joint exercises and senior-level visits. They noted the recent Agreement on the Exchange and Mutual Protection of Classified Information, and established a Bilateral Cybersecurity Dialogue to share expertise on cyber threats. Both condemned the Pahalgam terror attack and voiced Brazil's solidarity with India. They condemned all forms of terrorism and agreed to deepen action against UN-designated groups such as Lashkar-e-Tayyiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad, including measures at the UN and FATF. An agreement to combat international terrorism and organized crime



## 'Why do you do all this?' SC questions cartoonist over posts on PM

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Monday said that the right to freedom of speech and expression was "being abused" while hearing the anticipatory bail plea of cartoonist Hemant Malviya, who has been booked over objectionable social media posts related to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and RSS workers. "Why do you do all this?" a bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Aravind Kumar asked Malviya's counsel,

was also signed, and both leaders pledged support for the UN Convention on

Advocate Vrinda Grover, during the hearing. Grover submitted that the cartoon in question was created in 2021 during the Covid-19 pandemic and said, "It may be unpalatable. Let me say it is in poor taste. Let me go to that extent. But is it an offence? My lords have said, it can be offensive but it is not an offence. I am simply on law. I am not trying to justify anything." He also agreed to have the post deleted.

Cybercrime at its signing in Hanoi next year.

## Countries supporting Brics will pay 10% more tariffs

**Divya Delhi:** US President Donald Trump imposed 25% reciprocal tariffs on Japan and South Korea, similar to those announced in April. Beginning August 1, he posted messages on social media to both countries' political leaders announcing the levies. After Trump warned earlier in the day that Brics countries with "anti-American policies" would face a 10% tariff, this hap-



pened. Trump imposed tariffs on five more countries at press time, with three being lower than the April 2 reciprocal amounts. Myanmar dropped from 44% to 40%, Laos from 48% to 40%, and Kazakhstan from 27% to 25%. South Africa

stayed at 30% and Malaysia rose to 25% (like Japan). Indian officials have not given up on a "mini-trade deal" despite their reluctance to lower duties on agricultural goods like soybean, maize, and dairy products, but Monday's tariff announcements could lead to Trump imposing 26% duty on all Indian exports to the US if he is not satisfied with last week's official agreement.

## CM Siddaramaiah claims he was 'not consulted'

**Divya Delhi:** Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah on Monday asked Union minister Nitin Gadkari to postpone the inauguration of key infrastructure projects in Shivamogga, saying he was not consulted or officially informed about the July 14 event, despite his name appearing on the draft



invitation. In response, Gadkari said the chief minister had been duly invited on July 11, and a follow-up letter was sent offering the option to join virtually.

## Maternity leave constitutional guarantee, says SC

**Divya Delhi:** Observing that the concept of maternity leave is not just a matter of fair play and social justice but also a constitutional guarantee to women employees, Supreme Court Friday set aside a Madras HC order denying the leave to a govt teacher for birth of her third child. maternity leave is intended to achieve the objective.

## Prelim report 'provides greater clarity: Air India MD

**Divya Delhi:** The preliminary report into the June 12 AI 171 crash has "provided both greater clarity and opened additional questions," Air India MD & CEO Campbell Wilson said in a note to employees Monday. "The preliminary report found no mechanical or maintenance issues with the aircraft or engines, and that all mandatory maintenance tasks had been completed. There was no issue



with the quality of fuel and no abnormality with the take-off roll. The pilots had passed their mandatory pre-flight breather and there were no observations pertaining to their med-

ical status," it says. With the preliminary report into the crash that left 270 dead released and the final one about a year away, AI will now begin the task of regaining travellers'

confidence and also putting their fears about safety to rest. The AAIB has, for now, found no issues with the Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner aircraft, or GE engines. "Out of an abundance of caution and under the oversight of the DGCA, every Boeing 787 aircraft operating in our fleet was checked within days of the accident and all were found fit for service. We continue to perform all necessary checks.

## Government breaks silence on Chinese engineers leaving iPhone

**Divya Delhi:** The government has shared its response on Chinese engineers reportedly leaving the biggest iPhone supplier, Foxconn's plant in India.

According to a report by the news agency PTI, the government has stated that it's monitoring production targets and believes Apple has alternatives to manage

any related issues. This comes amid reports of hundreds of Chinese technology professionals returning to China. These professionals were reportedly facili-

tating and managing production at Foxconn plants in India. departure has led to speculation that it could affect the production of the upcoming iPhone 17.

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## Consider Aadhaar, other IDs in Bihar drive: Supreme Court

**Divya Delhi:** The Supreme Court asked the Election Commission of India (ECI) to also consider Aadhaar cards, voter IDs and ration cards, as acceptable proof of eligibility for inclusion in electoral rolls in its ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of the list in Bihar, even as it agreed to examine whether the poll body's exercise violated legal provisions or could potentially lead to mass disenfranchisement ahead of assembly elections due later this year. Underlining that the matter "goes to the root of the functioning of the democratic republic" and involves "the right to vote," a bench of justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Joymalya Bagchi said it would examine three key questions -- ECI's powers to conduct such an exercise, the manner in which the SIR is being conducted, and its timing, and



### EC: 3 out of 4 Bihar voters have filed enumeration forms

**Divya Delhi:** The Election Commission of India (ECI) press notice states that three out of four Bihar electors have submitted their enumeration forms for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Since the SIR directives were released on June 24, 5.87 crore (58.7 million) forms (74.39% of total) had been collected. The EC stated around 77,000 Booth Level Officers (BLOs),

fixed the matter for next hearing on July 28. The court also directed the poll body to file its counter affidavit within a week

20,603 newly appointed BLOs, election officials, and over 400,000 volunteers are working to collect and digitize forms for the Bihar assembly elections later this year. With a new verification module, BLO is digitizing and uploading 3.73 crore (37.3 million) forms. An EC official said the new "real time" in ECINet AERO/EROs to verify against the EPIC number who has uploaded.

and noted that no interim order was being passed at this stage since, by ECI's own schedule, the draft electoral rolls.

## Varanasi MC requests that meat shops close for the holy month

**Divya Delhi:** All meat and poultry establishments on the Kanwar Yatra path must close in Saawan, per the Varanasi Municipal Corporation. Varanasi Mayor Sandeep Srivastava chaired the executive committee meeting that finalized the instruction. The Municipal Commissioner stated the decision was made to 'prevent' Kanwariya inconvenience. The Municipal Commissioner has ordered officials to close these stores along Kanwar roads during Sawan to avoid inconvenience to Kanwariyas. He also said that Kanwariyas travel from different routes, thus a survey will be done



to close meat and poultry outlets there quickly. The instruction follows another order from district administrations in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Madhya Pradesh to display store owners' names and phone numbers along the Kanwar Yatra route. Banners with shop and stall owners' names and phone num-

bers have appeared in Muzaffarnagar. Later, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordered all Kanwar Yatra eateries to display their names. Days after the Muzaffarnagar police ordered all Kanwar Yatra eateries to show their owners' names, the administration has now ordered additional stores to do so to avoid "confu-

## Chirag Paswan denies becoming a future CM

**Divya Delhi:** The declaration that LJP (RV) chairman and union cabinet minister Chirag Paswan would run in the Bihar assembly elections later this year surprised everyone. His Lok Janshakti Party would form a pre-poll coalition with the ruling Janata Dal United

for the first time. Paswan's party won all five seats in last year's general elections, but it's not in the legislature. The 42-year-old son of LJP founder and former minister Ram Vilas has spoken out contrary to his coalition partner BJP. He told why he wants to

fight, the Waqf law, and the constitution preamble amendment. Haven't spoken to them.

This is my third term as a member of Parliament, and over the previous 11 years, I have realized that my vision for my state—Bihar first, Bihari first.

## CAPSULES

### Telangana politics change as BJP accepts T Raja's resignation



**Divya Delhi:** BJP's central leadership accepted Goshamahal MLA and Hindutva "poster boy" T Raja Singh's resignation, changing Telangana's political scene and the party's inner circles. Arun Singh, BJP national general secretary, wrote that Singh's resignation was "irrelevant" and did not fit the party's ideology, functioning, principles, and discipline. After JP Nadda ordered "immediate effect" for the resignation, the state leadership approved it. Singh declared defiance after the central leadership's approval, "I joined the party 11 years ago without ambition. Integrity and loyalty shall guide my Hindutva work." Singh denied joining any party, despite rumors that he would join Shiv Sena (UBT) or Pawan Kalyan's Jana Sena. He resigned from the party's primary membership ten days earlier to oppose the central leadership's order to former MLC N Ramchander Rao file his candidacy papers for Telangana BJP president.

## Telangana Cabinet to implement 42% quota for BC

**Divya Delhi :** The next local body elections in Telangana would see a 42% reservation for Backward Classes, according to the 19th Cabinet of the state government. This comes after the Telangana Assembly approved two crucial bills over four months ago, paving the way for a 42% quota for Backward Classes in public sector employment, schools, and municipal elections in both urban and rural areas. During a press meeting in Hyderabad, cabinet ministers Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and Ponnam Prabhakar announced the imminent promulgation of an ordinance including this provision. The state's advocate general was also consulted by the Cabinet



before making the decision, according to Srinivas Reddy. As per the directives from the Telangana High Court, the state of Telangana must conduct its local body elections no later than three months from now. The Telangana Backward Classes (Reservation of seats in urban

and rural local bodies) Bill, 2025 and the Telangana Backward Classes (Reservation of seats in educational institutions and of appointments for posts in services under the state) Bill, 2025 were the bills that were passed by the Telangana Assembly in March.

### Police in Noida will design a 4-kilometer Kanwar Yatra route

**Divya Delhi:** In Noida, devotees will embark on a four-kilometer journey that begins at Mayur Vihar, continues past the Shani Temple and the Okhla Bird Sanctuary, and ends at Kalindi Kunj. According to the police, in preparation for next week's Kanwar Yatra, they have devised a strategy for traffic control to ease the journey of Kanwar pilgrims via Noida on their route to Delhi and Faridabad. The four-kilometer journey that pilgrims will take in Noida begins at Mayur Vihar and ends at Kalindi Kunj, stopping at Shani Temple and the Okhla Bird Sanctuary.

## A 2,200-crore expansion is planned: BITS Pilani chancellor

**Divya Delhi :** Aditya Birla Group chairman and Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS) Pilani chancellor Kumar Mangalam Birla announced major expansion plans for the prestigious educational institution, including AI adoption, ed-tech ventures, and Indian campus capacity increases. Birla spoke at BITS Pilani's 2025 convocation, where 17,041 students graduated while former chief justice DY Chandrachud was chief guest. The rich industrialist invested around ₹2,200 crore in three



projects to expand the university. The institute will invest 1,000 crore in a state-of-the-art AI+ campus in Amaravati, 1,219 crore in expanding and modernizing its three Indian campuses in Pilani, Goa, and Hyderabad under 'project vistaar', and ₹35 crore in launching BITS Pilani Digital, its dedicated EdTech platform. The 35-acre AI+ cam-

pus in Amaravati will provide undergraduate twinning programs, cotutelle doctoral degrees with leading worldwide schools, and master's programs in AI/ML, innovation, and strategy. Undergraduate twinning programs allow students to split their four-year degree program between an Indian institution and a foreign partner univer-

## Tracking Kanwar Yatra route across Delhi-NCR

**Divya Delhi:** The Delhi Police has issued a travel advisory in view of the Kanwar Yatra 2025, starting today. Huge crowds of devotees are expected to enter the national capital from various borders. As per the report, dense crowds comprising groups of Kanwariyas are expected on Wazirabad Road, GT Road, Loni Road, NH-24, Road Number 56, Kalindi Kunj Road, Mathura Road, Ring Road, ISBT Kashmiri Gate, Rani Jhansi Road, Ridge Road, and Dhaura Kuan. Apart from this, Nangloi-Najafgarh Road, Firni Road, Zakhira, Rohtak Road, Madipur, Peeragarhi, Nangloi, Madhuban Chowk, Mukarba Chowk, Keshopur Mandi, Janakpuri, Pankh Road, Devprakash Shastri Marg, Geeta Colony Pushpa Road, Salimgarh Bypass, Indralok, Ring Road, Outer Ring Road, Barf



### Government issues Waqf Act rules

**Divya Delhi :** The Union government issued the guidelines to operationalize the disputed Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, focusing on the central portal where Islamic charitable endowments will be registered and leaving other details to the states. The 32-page minority affairs ministry document will be presented to Parliament on July 21 during the monsoon session. A senior ministry official said the rules will be republished in the gazette if Parliament modifies them. The act was elaborate, thus the rules are short and focused on the portal. The ministry's task is complete, and Parliament will set the rules.

Khana Chowk, Road, Azad Market, Gokulpuri Flyover, 66 Foota Road, Maujpur Chowk, Seelampur

Metro Station, and Shahdara are also expected to see notable traffic congestion, the report added.

## Mohan Bhagwat suggests leaders retire at 75, sparking Opposition suspicion.

**Divya Delhi:** Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) president Mohan Bhagwat's comment about resigning at 75 has opposition lawmakers wondering how it will affect Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

who turns 75 this September. At the Nagpur book presentation for RSS ideologue Moropant Pingle, Bhagwat stated, "When you turn 75, it means you should stop now and make way for others."

Bhagwat also remembered Pingle's humor. In his lecture, Mohan Bhagwat recalled that Moropant Pingle once said that if you are honoured with a shawl after 75, you should quit now, you are old; stand aside

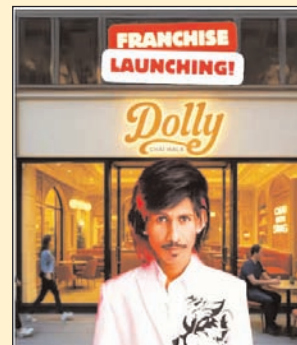
and let others come in. He said Moropant, despite his dedication to national duty, believed in gracefully retiring at age. Many the remark as a hidden message to PM Modi, sparking a political controversy.

### China lashes out in anger as Dalai Lama affirms right to choose successor

**Divya Delhi:** Dalai Lama effectively excluded China from the process of selecting his successor by stating that the 600-year-old institution of spiritual head of Tibetan Buddhists will remain even after his death and that a trust he established will be the only authority to recognize his reincarnation. Controversy has surrounded the institution's future ever since the Nobel laureate and leader of Tibetan Buddhism stated in 2011 that he would make a decision.

## Dolly Chaiwala's franchise gets 1,609 requests 'despite hate'

**Divya Delhi :** Two days after revealing his ambitious franchise intentions, Nagpur-based tea seller Sunil Patil, known as Dolly Chaiwala, received 1,609 applications. The online star, known for his eccentric serving technique and viral cooperation with Bill Gates, is turning his tea cart into a statewide business. Dolly expressed gratitude to his supporters and addressed being mocked for his upbringing and lack of schooling. "But I spent 20 years behind my tea



cart, in the sun and rain, through good and bad times, hoping things would change. I persevered. I'm lucky, but more proud, today." He called the franchisee announcement "a symbol of possibility for the millions



who start life with nothing but a dream." "People can laugh at me or call me names," Dolly said. He announced the franchise on social media, stating that it is India's first viral street brand and now a commercial

opportunity. From carts to flagship cafés, we're launching countrywide and need passionate people to achieve this objective. "The announcement included a link to an application form on his Instagram account and listed three franchise formats: a cart stall for Rs 4.5 lakh to Rs 6 lakh, a shop model for Rs 20 lakh to Rs 22 lakh, and a flagship cafe for Rs 39 lakh to Rs 43 lakh. After going viral, the post received mixed reviews. Many social media users applauded Dolly on his rise.



## Appeal to overturn BNS parts rejected by HC

**Divya Delhi:** The Delhi high court rejected a request to have sections of the new penal code, Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS), dealing with crimes against the state and public tranquillity removed because it did not have the authority to do so. Offenses against the state are addressed in Sections 147 to 158 and include, among other things, acts that threaten the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of the country, assaults on the President or Governor, and attempts to compel or restrain the exercise of any lawful power. July 1, 2017, was the effective date of the new law that superseded the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Crimes against public tranquillity are addressed under Sections 189–197 and include acts such as unlawful assembly, rioting, affray, and wanting to intentionally provoke a disturbance. Justice Anish Dayal and Chief



DJB served with a notice by NGT

**Divya Delhi:** National Green Tribunal (NGT) has served notice on the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) following a petition alleging that private developers had unlawfully dug borewells and were drawing groundwater without authorization. According to the petitioner, Arun Kumar Tomar, nothing happened after he complained to the DJB chairman. According to Tomar, 19 private builders in Delhi had alleged-

Justice DK Upadhyay ruled that the bench did not have the authority to issue such

ly dug illegal borewells. The charges necessitate confirmation by means of a spot examination by the DJB, as pointed out Prakash Shrivastava. It further stated that the relevant SDM should subsequently take the required measures.

, which has not been done thus far. The judge ordered the DJB to look into the allegation and make sure the borewells were sealed and seized properly.

a directive because doing so would constitute legislation.

## MCD outsourcing 300 community centers

**Divya Delhi :** Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) plans to outsource management of over 300 community centers and halls to improve user services. Singh said that the evaluation addressed community centre maintenance and planned to run them on public-private partnership (PPP) while maintaining discounted booking rates. We plan to run them on a PPP basis to improve service. Singh said booking rates would not rise. Community centers and halls offer subsidized space for weddings, parties, and other events. Despite increasing demand in Delhi, many



corporation-run community centers are underutilized. MCD has 299 community halls, 21 of which are unusable due to maintenance and repair. All eight community centers are closed since the corporation's activities aren't popular. The audit of community hall operations also

showed the human resource shortage. A senior MCD official claimed community centers need staff. The community services department relies on community workers. These individuals will assist with water tanker bookings, operational issues, and maintenance.

### The new Delhi drainage plan is due in 15 days

**Divya Delhi:** Public Works Department (PWD) minister Parvesh Verma said a draft of Delhi's new drainage master plan will be ready in 15 days. It will include survey findings and expert recommendations from a year ago. After reviewing the draft, work will begin to overhaul the Capital's 50-year-old drainage infrastructure. "We received

the Najafgarh basin report and will receive the Barapullah and Trans-Yamuna basin reports in 15 days. After receiving all three findings, we will redesign Delhi's drainage network. We saw that drains need urgent repair and upgrading. Verma stated we will begin with urgent intervention areas. The PWD ultimately hired a consultant to

create a drainage master plan for Delhi's largest basin, Najafgarh, in May 2023. The consultant has one year to finish the recently filed project. Officials said PWD will examine feasibility and generate estimates based on consultant recommendations before sending them to the government for approval before work begins.

## CAPSULES

### Muslims are the religion with the most rapid global expansion



**Divya Delhi:** From 2010 to 2020, Muslims became the world's fastest-growing religious group, according to a Pew Research Centre report. At the same time, the number of Christians, the largest religious group in the world, decreased by 1.8 percentage points to 28.8%. Reaching 1.2 billion in 2020, with 95% residing in India, the Hindu population increased at a pace comparable to that of the global population. In 2020, 79% of India's population identified as Hindu, up from 80% in 2010. 'How the Global Religious Landscape Changed From 2010 to 2020' shed light on the increase in the Muslim proportion, which went up from 14.3% in 2010 to 15.2% in 2020. Of all the world's population categories, only those who do not identify with any religion (also termed "nones") increased in percentage terms, adding 270 million to reach 1.9 billion. Muslims were the only other group to see this growth. To 24.2%, the proportion of "nones" increased by nearly a full percentage point.

## How Delhi's Delivery Boys Got Involuntary Into Drug Dealing?

**Divya Delhi :** Dashrath Kumar appeared to be just another delivery kid going about his business at first look. He was able to blend in with the crowd while wearing a red t-shirt donated by one corporation and carrying an orange bag from another. While onlookers were oblivious to it, authorities had been keeping tabs on Kumar while they investigated a bootlegging business. He was taken into custody and a significant amount of illegal alcohol was confiscated. The narrative of Sourabh is remarkably similar. He gave in to his vices and started delivering alcohol on the side while working as a delivery boy for an online



retailer. He needed the extra cash. He ended himself in police custody after running afoul of the law as a result of this decision. Both incidents show how the bootlegging industry takes advantage of those who work in the gig economy by hiding behind the

image of a nice delivery boy. In the southeast Delhi neighborhood of Govindpuri, 25-year-old Khurshid was apprehended in an abnormally large e-cart bag containing 400 quarters of booze that was stamped "For sale in Haryana only."

### A New Blood Donor App Is Coming Soon to Delhi

**Divya Delhi :** Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced that the city will soon release an app listing blood donors who are willing to donate their blood voluntarily. A blood donation camp in the Anand Vihar area was the site of the announcement, given by Ms. Gupta. "Details of those who intend to donate blood will soon be available on a blood donor app. "Details about their blood type, when they last donated, and whether they are eligible to donate again .

## Q1 FY26 liquor sales bring in Rs 2,662 crore for the Delhi

**Divya Delhi :** According to officials, in the first quarter of 2025-26, the government corporations of Delhi sold almost 16.96 crore bottles of liquor, generating more than Rs 2,662 crore. In the period between April and June of 2025, DSI-DC sold 5.29 crore bottles of various alcoholic beverages, which was the biggest sales volume in the country. The following three companies, according to official statistics, sold 5 crore bottles: DTTDC, Delhi State Civil Supplies



Corporation (DSCSC), and Delhi Consumer's Cooperative Wholesale Store (DCCWS). Under the present excise policy, the government of Delhi runs more than 700 vends for retail liquor sales through four agencies: DSIIDC, DTTDC, DSCSC, and DCCWS. The four com-

panies made Rs 2,403 crore from 15.93 crore bottles sold in the first quarter of the previous fiscal year. This year's sales have brought in an additional Rs 259 crore, according to officials. Government excise tax collection goal for 2025–26 is Rs 7,000 crore.

## Govt plans 20km elevated corridor over Munak Canal

**Divya Delhi:** Aiming to boost the city's transport infrastructure, Delhi govt, along with National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), plans to construct a 20k-long elevated road over Munak canal, connecting Inderlok to Bawana in northwest Delhi. Chief minister Rekha Gupta has also said Delhi govt wants to undertake the maintenance of the canal and will take up the issue with her Haryana counterpart soon. Munak canal serves as a vital waterway connecting Haryana and Delhi, constructed with the primary purpose of minimising water wastage in the Western Yamuna Canal while ensuring reliable water delivery to the national capital. Authorities now plan to utilise the road infrastructure along the canal as the foun-



dation for an elevated corridor, in a move intended to reduce traffic congestion and enhance commuting efficiency throughout the area. Officials said the decision was taken during a high-level meeting between chief minister Rekha Gupta and minister Parvesh Verma. The project will be executed by NHAI while the Public Works Department (PWD) will oversee funding, land clearance and local coordination. The estimated cost of the project is about 3,000 crore.

### Govt allocates 12,952 crore for public transport system

**The BJP** government, led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, presented its maiden budget on Tuesday, March 25. Gupta presented 1 lakh crore budget for 2025-26, a 31.56% increase from last year. In the budget for the financial year 2025-26, the government has allocated 12,952 crore to improve Delhi's public transport system. It has allocated 1,000 crore to improve the connectivity of Delhi with the NCR region.

## L-G extends and raises 410 vocational instructors' compensation until 2026

**Divya Delhi:** Raj Niwas officials announced that Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena has authorized the continuation and increased pay of 410 part-time vocational teachers (PTVTs) in government and government-aided schools until March 2026. The Delhi education department requested that 402 qualified and eight non-qualified PTVTs continue services from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026. LG approved the plan, they claimed. An official said the government has approved Rs



36 crore for PTVT pay and vocational education. Saxena allowed two contractual part-time vocational teachers in the Hospitality and Tourism vocational stream to prolong their contracts from March 1, 2025, to February 28,

2026. The proposal also maintains nine PTVTs in four Delhi government-aided senior secondary schools for 2025-26. Delhi schools have employed contingent or contractual part-time vocational teachers from the late 1970s

### The Posh Act also applies to online sexual harassment.

**Divya Delhi :** Adapting the legal framework to evolving digital work environments is of utmost importance, according to Delhi High Court judge Justice Prathiba M. Singh. She emphasized that the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act) must cover incidents of sexual harassment of women during online meetings. Justice Singh argued that the term "workplace" should be properly broadened to encompass digital, virtual, and electronic platforms.

and early 2000s. Since the CBSE replaced the vocational stream with the National Skills

Qualifications Framework, they have continued to offer vocational subjects.

## E-auction of 177 apartments approved under housing project

**Divya Delhi :** The Housing Scheme 2025, which will provide 177 apartments for sale through online auction to those in the middle class and below, has received approval from the Delhi Development Authority (DDA). Some of the most desirable locations for these apartments include



Vasant Kunj, Ashoka Pahari,

Rohini, Pitampura, Jasola, and Dwarka. Additionally, it gave its stamp of approval to a package of measures meant to reinvigorate the commercial real estate sector of the city and entice massive investments to the area. A meeting of the DDA, presided over by Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena, was held

on July 11 to make these determinations. The government has slashed amalgamation fees for commercial properties from 10% of the circular rate to a pitiful 1%. The statement claimed that the move is made to make it more financially viable for developers to consolidate property.

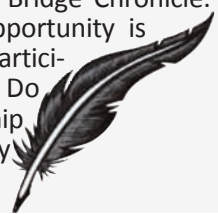


## Editorial

**T Kharagpur wants students to run to mommy. 'Campus Mothers' is regression not innovation**

At a time when gender equity discussions are taking centre stage, IIT Kharagpur's reductive framing of women through the 'Campus Mothers' initiative as default caregivers is tragically regressive. Reinforcing outdated gender norms under the guise of support, it sidelines efforts for gender parity and ultimately does a disservice to all genders. The urgent need to expand mental health support on college campuses and create multiple avenues of care and intervention is not under debate here. What merits scathing scrutiny is the blatant gender stereotyping disguised as an innovative initiative. The core idea of community-based health-care initiatives like 'Campus Mothers' is not new. One of the earliest examples is Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), developed in the US in the 1970s, which includes Peer Support Specialists to provide mental health support. From India, Atmiyata is a community-based mental health initiative that has shown evidence-based success in Maharashtra and Gujarat. Similar community mental health models in Japan and other countries have also shown encouraging rates of success. However, in their decades-long global history, community mental health support has never been the exclusive domain or responsibility of women. Framing caregiving as inherently feminine erases the contributions of others and reinforces regressive gender norms that hinder gender equitable participation in both caregiving and mental health advocacy. By soliciting the active participation of women as 'Campus Mothers', the initiative is likely to exclude other genders, especially men from this important mental health initiative, undermining the very equity that such programmes should strive to promote. "Many of these women have experienced motherhood themselves—some have grown up children who may now be living abroad or otherwise independent. Having gone through motherhood, they understand the unique challenges children face," said the director of IIT Kharagpur, Suman Chakraborty. We find this quote especially problematic.

The notion that experiencing motherhood inherently grants women a magical capacity for empathy is both reductive and exclusionary. By that logic, men—having never experienced motherhood—are naturally disqualified from being empathetic. But empathy is not biologically bestowed through motherhood; it is cultivated through a range of life experiences, self-awareness, and emotional engagement. The best counsellors and therapists, or psychiatrists are not defined by their gender or parental status. A nurturing environment requires participation from all genders. Since 'Campus Mothers' involves training, why not train all genders? This initiative deliberately propagates the surrogate maternal figure, reinforcing the "run-to-mommy-when-hurt" stereotype. Equally troubling is the assumption that older women, having completed their primary caregiving roles, now need something to "fill their time". And 'Campus Mothers' is supposed to be a productive way to keep them occupied. This framing is deeply patriarchal and condescending, reducing women's identities to domestic roles and positioning them as permanent caregivers for other people's children once their own have left home. Audaciously enough, the 'Campus Mothers' initiative has also been called a leadership opportunity for women. "By involving women as key emotional anchors on campus, the initiative also promotes women's participation and leadership in the academic community," reads an article on The Bridge Chronicle. What kind of leadership opportunity is envisaged for women who participate in this programme? Do they get visibility for leadership roles traditionally held by men in the administrative .



As Bihar gears up for the assembly elections later this year, the opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal has appointed Mangani Lal Mandal as its new state president—the first time it has chosen someone who belongs to the Extremely Backward Classes, or EBCs, a voting bloc that comprises 113 castes and makes up 36 per cent of the state's population. So far, though, EBCs have shown an aversion toward the RJD. Instead, they have gravitated toward the JDU, now in alliance with the BJP, which mobilised its election machinery in Bihar immediately after winning the Delhi assembly election. The question now arises whether the RJD will succeed in its efforts to attract EBCs through the appointment of Mandal. Based on an analysis of caste-wise candidate nominations by the RJD and JDU, and their respective victories in the 2020 Bihar assembly election, I argue that the RJD needs to move beyond political appointments for the mobilisation of such communities. It also needs to focus on exclusive policies intended to empower EBCs. Otherwise, it will be extremely difficult to break the scepticism of the EBCs. Bihar is well known for caste-based political mobilisation. The caste background of can-



didates is an important indicator of how parties build their social coalitions. It also helps us to understand the support of different castes for various political parties. Let's take a look at the caste-wise candidate nominations and wins of the RJD and JDU in the 2020 Bihar assembly election. This analysis examines the caste composition of nominees and elected representatives from the RJD and JDU in the 2020 Bihar Assembly election, based on candidate data from media reports. The graph below shows that the RJD's highest number of candidates came from the Yadav community (58). After them, only three other groups—EBCs (19), Scheduled Castes (19), and Muslims (18)—had candidates in double digits. Seen as a whole, the RJD focused primarily on its traditional MY (Muslim-Yadav) base, followed by an attempt to bring in EBCs. However, its EBC candidates performed badly. Out of 19 nominated, only four won. In con-

trast, JDU's EBC candidates performed impressively. It nominated 17 EBC candidates, out of which 12 won. The party's overall ticket distribution was also not concentrated on any one social group. Seven social groups—Yadav (18), EBC (17), SC (16), Kurmi (15), Kushwaha (15), Muslim (11), and Bhumihar (10)—had candidates in double digits. It's worth noting, though, that the highest number of JDU candidates also came from the Yadavs. This nomination profile might be symbolic, but it also conveys a message that the party is not against the legitimate representation of any particular social group. Here, the RJD did not appear as above board, as it had nominated only one candidate from the Kurmi caste, which is the support base of the JDU. In short, the above comparative analysis reveals EBCs have largely steered clear

Despite nominating a larger number of candidates from the

group, only four of its 19 EBC candidates won, compared to 12 of JDU's 17. It is often stated that Nitish Kumar has created a constituency of women, MBCs, and Mahadalits, and these social groups have gradually become a strong support base of the JDU. To break the social base of any political party, a rival typically deploys two strategies: ticket splitting and policy changes. The former means nominating candidates from those castes and communities, while the latter involves promising policies that benefit them. The RJD relied on the first strategy, nominating a high number of EBC candidates in the 2020 election. One may counter that the RJD also adopted the strategy of policy change by promising 10 lakh government jobs, from which EBCs would also potentially benefit. So why did EBCs not respond to such promises?

One answer could be low educational attainment among EBCs and their limited ability to benefit from reservation policies. Across North Indian states, EBCs have demanded a sub-categorisation within OBC reservations, arguing that they are unable to compete with politically dominant OBC groups such as Yadavs and Kurmis. The BJP responded by

appointing the Justice Rohini Committee to examine this demand. At the same time, welfare schemes introduced by the Narendra Modi government have also reached these communities. Because of its alliance with the BJP, the JDU has benefited from both strategies—ticket splitting and policy response—while opposition parties like the RJD have remained stuck on the former. This could partly explain the aversion of EBCs toward the RJD. In the upcoming election, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav is promising to extend the limit of reservation, along with the introduction of a domicile policy for government jobs. However, none of these policies are specifically targeted to address the grievances of EBCs. Unless the party does that, it would be a Herculean task to break the aversion. To sum up, the RJD's attempt to expand its social coalition by adding EBCs to its MY base did not deliver encouraging results in the last election. Relying on ticket-splitting alone to mobilise these communities hasn't worked. The party now needs to explore mechanisms beyond candidate nomination. Offering specific welfare schemes could be one of them. Otherwise, it may just be staring at a repeat of 2020.

## Bombay HC has left women advocates without a PoSH shield

The Bombay High Court recently rejected a petition asking it to order the Maharashtra-Goa Bar Council and the Bar Council of India to set up permanent committees for handling sexual harassment complaints under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013. Every woman advocate in India is now outside the PoSH net. The Division Bench of the Bombay High Court concluded that no employer-employee relationship exists between advocates and Bar Councils. That nexus is the linchpin of the PoSH Act. The Act's architecture presupposes an employer capable of setting up an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), enforcing penalties, and supervising compliance. Since Bar Councils are not "employers" and advocates are not "employees", the judges held, PoSH's machinery simply has nothing to attach itself to. Hence, there is no obligation to set up ICCs at state or national Bar Councils. The Court noted that victims of sexual harassment could

instead use the avenue of filing a complaint of misconduct under the Advocates Act. The Bombay High Court order reopens the faultline that has shadowed the PoSH Act since its birth. The Act traces back to the Vishaka guidelines rooted in the 1992 gang rape of Bhanwari Devi, a government field worker who was attacked by dominant-caste men while campaigning against child marriage. Although the Supreme Court invoked constitutional guarantees to establish guidelines on redressing sexual harassment at work, it confined those safeguards to a model that required a formal employer. When Parliament finally codified PoSH in 2013, that structure was embedded in the Act. The duty to constitute ICCs, train staff and committee members, and create a safe working environment was placed wholly on an identifiable employer. The Bombay High Court Bench relied squarely on that design architecture to reject the current plea.

## Paradox of India's S-400 deal—key asset delayed when country needs it most

On the sidelines of the otherwise contentious Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Qingdao, a quiet yet significant development unfolded. India was once again assured by Russia of the timely delivery of the remaining two S-400 Triumf air defence systems. Russian defence minister Andrei Belousov himself communicated this to his Indian counterpart Rajnath Singh, offering some comfort to New Delhi's strategic planners. Indian media outlets covered the commitment with cautious relief. The S-400 systems, which form the outermost layer of India's integrated air defence shield, have proven particularly effective during Operation Sindoor. They successfully integrated with domestically developed platforms like the Akash surface-to-air missiles, L-70 anti-aircraft guns, and indigenous drones. Unsurprisingly, there is a growing consensus within India's strategic community that New Delhi must not only complete the current S-400 procurement but also explore future acquisitions, possibly including the more advanced S-500 systems. However, this optimism belies the long and complicated journey of the S-400 deal. Signed in 2018 at a value of \$5.43 billion, the agreement was initially hailed as a bold assertion of India's strategic autonomy, especially during the Trump administration. In 2020, NATO ally Turkey faced sanctions under CAATSA (Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act) for pursuing the same system. India had escaped US sanctions, a testament to its rising importance in the evolving Indo-Pacific calculus. Yet, what was once a symbol of defiance and diplomatic balance has now become a victim of President Putin's protracted war in Ukraine. Originally scheduled for delivery between 2021 and 2023, the first three S-400 systems did arrive by

late 2021. The remaining two, however, remain undelivered as Russia's war in Ukraine enters its fourth year, with no clear end in sight. The timeline has repeatedly slipped. There are at least four critical factors behind these delays, which highlight both vulnerabilities and priorities of the Russian defence sector, as well as the geopolitical complexities surrounding Moscow's partnerships. Russia has suffered significant material losses in Ukraine. While propaganda from both sides makes verification difficult, independent monitoring groups like Oryx have documented that at least 12 S-400 systems have been partially or completely destroyed. This is significant, given the S-400's role as the backbone of Russia's long-range air defence, with more than 30 regiments reportedly in service. The S-400 is vital for safeguarding Russia's expansive territory—particularly as its military posture faces new threats from NATO's rejuvenated eastern flank. If Russia is short on operational systems, it is far more likely to divert new production toward replenishing its own arsenals than fulfilling export obligations. To understand how important the S-400 programme is for Russia.

**Editor**  
**Rajesh Chauhan**  
rajeshchauhan4569@gmail.com  
**Advertisement**  
**Shivani**  
Kaurjagjeekaur018@gmail.com  
**Layout & Design**  
**Dheeraj Mishra**  
dheerajmishra011@gmail.com  
**Printed, Published and Owned by**  
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## Can Musk And His American Party Rely On 'Vibes'?

The American Party. Is it the birth of a new political force of disruption and even hope in the United States, or just another Independence Day startup with a flag? While most Americans were busy enjoying fireworks and patriotic ballads on July 4, Elon Musk was hunched over his phone, obsessing not over liberty but over the results of a poll he posted on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, now moonlighting as his personal megaphone and emotional weather vane. The question was, should he launch a new political party? The answer, to his delight, was a resounding yes, with nearly two-thirds of

1.2 million respondents cheering him on. Musk took this as nothing short of divine instruction, promptly declaring the birth of the America Party. Until recently, billionaires busied themselves buying sports teams or building vanity rockets. But that looks old-school. Starting your own political party? That's the new superyacht. Musk insists this isn't just a passing whim but a much-needed emancipation from what he calls the "Uniparty", his term for the interchangeable swamp monsters that allegedly populate both the Republican and Democratic machines. "Do you want inde-

pendence from the two-party system?" he asked his followers. Over 1.2 million users clicked "yes", which in Musk-land is basically a constitutional convention. But before we light any more sparklers in celebration of the claim of American democracy's rebirth, let's step back. Is this really a new political force or just Musk rage-quitting the Republican Party in full view of his followers? After all, just weeks ago, he was Donald Trump's golden boy, literally. Musk was chairing the Department of Government Efficiency (aka 'Doge'), a symbolic nod to his uncanny ability to combine governance with meme stock aesthetics. Trump praised

Musk as a genius who would revolutionise Washington. Their bromance, once sealed with Tesla stock and campaign donations, turned into an electrified divorce. Musk denounced Trump's new tax-and-spend 'orgy' as fiscal lunacy. Trump, in return, called Musk a "train wreck" trying to force electric cars down America's throat. To which Musk replied, essentially: "Fine. I'm starting my own party. With blackjack. And freedom." At first glance, this seems like classic Silicon Valley hubris - another tech mogul who believes that because he can colonise Mars, he can also fix swing states.



Over 60% of June three wheeler sales are EVs

Divya Delhi: The Federation of Indian Automobile Dealers Associations reported that over 60% of three-wheeler retail sales in June 2025 were electric, indicating a strong increase in green mobility.



From 55.5% in the same month last year, electric three-wheelers jumped to 60.2%. From little under 6% in June 2024, two-wheeler EV sales rose to 7.3%. The penetration of passenger electric vehicles—cars and SUVs—rose to 4.4% from 2.5% a year earlier. EVs made up 1.6% of truck and bus sales and 0.1% of construction equipment sales in the business sector.

June car retail sales reached 2 million, up 5% year-over-year. Construction equipment sales rose 55% due to infrastructure

spending. Tractor sales grew 9%, passenger vehicles 2.5%, commercial vehicles 6.6%, and two-wheelers 4.7%. FADA president C.S. Vigneshwar said early monsoon rains and the rise in electric vehicle options had influenced customer purchase decisions, especially for two-wheelers. He noted that incentives and fresh bookings helped passenger vehicle sales, but liquidity and geopolitical concerns remain. According to experts, EV penetration across several industries is nearing an inflection point.

Centre will borrow 8L cr, 54% of the objective

The government plans to borrow Rs 8 lakh crore, 54% of its Rs 14.8 lakh crore FY26 borrowing, in the first half. It didn't front-load the borrowing program to avoid raising rates while the RBI pumped record liquidity into the system. Since the market reported little demand for 30-year and longer bonds, the government announced it would borrow less in FY26. Thus, front-loading of the borrowing program has been avoided due to government (fiscal consolidation without compromising quality of expenditure).

Elon Musk says Tesla will ask shareholders about investing in xAI

Divya Delhi : Elon Musk says Tesla will ask shareholders about investing in xAI. After the Wall Street Journal reported that SpaceX would invest \$2 billion in xAI, the billionaire spoke. Musk wrote on X that shareholders decide whether to invest in xAI. Musk also asked X users last year if Tesla should invest \$5 billion in xAI, saying he was testing the waters. It's not my call. To my mind, Tesla should have invested in xAI long ago. Musk replied to a post that a shareholder vote will



be held. In reaction to ChatGPT's popularity, Elon Musk founded xAI in early 2023. Since then, the company has released its Grok AI chatbot, which was updated to Grok 4 models. The chatbot rivals ChatGPT, Gemini, and Claude. Musk merged xAI and

X earlier this year, valuing the AI startup at \$80 billion and X at \$33 billion. Musk wants \$200 billion in investments in the combined business, Bloomberg reports. Tesla investing in xAI looks to be part of his aim to integrate his corporate empire.

ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund to sell 10% of Rs 10k crore IPO

Divya Delhi: Another huge IPO is anticipated for this year. Prudential Corp of UK, ICICI Bank's joint venture partner in ICICI Prudential Asset Management, is selling 10% of the company through an IPO worth roughly Rs 10,000 crore. ICICI Bank, the

fund house's primary owner, said AMC filed the filings with Sebi. Two IPOs over Rs 5,000 crore have occurred this year: HDB Financial Services, an HDFC bank unit, completed its 12,500-crore IPO last month. February saw Hexaware Tech raise

roughly Rs 8,760 crore. ICICI Prudential AMC manages I-Pru MF, which manages over Rs 9.5 lakh crore in investors' assets (AMFI data for April-June quarter). ICICI Bank owns 51% of the fund firm and the UK financial giant 49%.

CAPSULES

Bitcoin first reaches \$121,000: What drives the rally?

Divya Delhi : Bitcoin crossed \$121,000 for the first time, rising over 3%. In one year, the world's largest cryptocurrency doubled investors' wealth, rising almost 103%. Bitcoin traded at \$121,068. One bitcoin would be worth around Rs 1.04 lakh in Indian rupees. Ethereum and other cryptocurrencies rose over 3% to \$3,046 (approximately Rs 2.62 lakh each). Solana rose about 3.5 percent to \$167 (Rs 14,352). 'Crypto week' confidence has boosted cryptocurrencies in recent days. The US House of Representatives will discuss the 'Clarity Act' this week to regulate the crypto business. A bill to regulate stablecoins, U.S.-dollar-pegged cryptocurrency tokens, will be considered by the lower house of Congress. Bitcoin has risen about 30% in 2025 on Trump's pro-crypto stance. The cryptocurrency has risen 1,414 percent in five years. The crypto fear and greed index is 70, signaling an overheated market. Crypto funds received \$1.23 billion in one day on July 11 (latest statistics), with Bitcoin ETFs contributing approximately \$1.03 billion. This large institutional money inflow and frenzy around US 'Crypto Week', which begins today, are driving the crypto boom "Sivam Thakral, BuyUcoin CEO. As countries like Vietnam adopt crypto, following America's example in the global digital economy, the timing is perfect. These bills may give Wall Street's top players the confidence to invest after waiting for clearer rules. There's significant emphasis on safeguarding average investors from frauds and dubious activities, not just luring big money. Instead of distrusting crypto, politicians are helping it grow and remain transparent. This amazing turnaround could change our understanding of digital assets and blockchain.

8th Pay Commission Could Hike Salaries 30–34%

Divya Delhi : Central government personnel and pensioners may receive large wage and pension increases. Ambit Capital expects the 8th Pay Commission will propose a 30-34% increase in effective take-home pay, more than double the 14.3% hike under the 7th Pay Commission. The 8th Pay Commission, however unformed, may be launched in 2026-27. This modification is expected to cost the government Rs 1.8 lakh crore annually, compared to Rs 1.02 lakh crore for the 7th Pay Commission rollout in FY17. This expected



increase is driven by the fitment factor, a multiplier for revised pay. Ambit Capital expects a higher fitment factor than the 7th Pay Commission 2.57. One important point: A new Pay Commission eliminates the Dearness Allowance (DA),

which is currently 55% of the basic wage. Even if nominal basic pay rises dramatically, salary calculation is recalculated. For example, the 6th Pay Commission made Rs 7,000 a take-home wage of Rs15,750.

Birla Co. recovers Rs 2 crore in stolen digital gold

Divya Delhi : Hackers breached the ABCD mobile app run by Aditya Birla Capital and stole digital gold valued at approximately Rs 1.95 crore from 435 user accounts, according to Divya Delhi. On June 9, the scam was exposed after multiple consumers contacted the company's call center to express their dissatisfaction with the theft of their digital gold. Concerned about this, the company's technical staff launched an internal investigation and filed a first information report. According to our sources, the affected accounts now have their balances returned by the company.

All EU and Mexico imports will be subject to 30% tariffs as imposed

Divya Delhi : President Trump of the United States has decided to levy a 30% tariff on goods imported from Mexico and the European Union, with the duty going into effect on August 1. The new tariffs on two of the US's most important trading partners were announced by Trump in separate letters uploaded to his Truth Social platform. He blamed a trade imbalance with the European Union and



what he saw as Mexico's involvement in illegal immigration and drug trafficking into the United States. Trump levied a 50% tariff on copper and more tariff announcements for over 20 nations earlier this week. These nations include Brazil, South

Korea, Japan, and South Korea. The tariffs are more severe than the 25% tax that Trump levied on Mexican imports earlier this year, with the exception of items that enter the US through the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

Even if the visa is approved, the individual may still face deportation proceedings

Divya Delhi : American officials have reiterated their stance that visitors must adhere to all regulations or face deportation. Screening for US visas continues even after the visa has been awarded. We make sure that visa holders respect all US laws and immigration rules by checking them constantly. According to the US embassy in India, if they do not comply, their visas will be revoked and they will be deported. Representational picture The visa process has become more stringent under the Trump administration. After halting processing of student visas at the end of May due to social media screening, it has only now begun processing them again for this fall. "Effective immediate-



Priya Nair will replace Rohit Jawa as HUL's first female CEO

Divya Delhi: Hindustan Unilever Ltd. (HUL) named Priya Nair, 53, as its new managing director and CEO on August 1, succeeding Rohit Jawa, who will retire after two years, the shortest term for any MD at India's largest consumer products giant. Nair, Unilever's beauty and well-being president, will become HUL's first female CEO. After a year and a half as CEO, Unilever replaced Hein Schumacher with Fernando Fernandez, its finance leader, to accelerate its turnaround.

ly, all individuals applying for an F, M, or J nonimmigrant visa are requested to adjust the privacy settings on all of their social media accounts to public to

facilitate vetting necessary to establish their identity and admissibility to the United States under US law," the embassy stated.

Tesla May Start Indian Deliveries in August

Divya Delhi : Tesla Inc. will open its first showroom in Indiaand begin deliveries next month, according to sources, as the Elon Musk-led electric vehicle maker seeks to capitalize on demand in the third-largest auto market to offset slowing sales elsewhere. The Mumbai showroom will



mark Tesla's formal market entry, giving prospective customers access to pricing, variants, and

trim options, according to one person, who requested anonymity, and Bloomberg News documents. Last month, Bloomberg News claimed that the Mumbai store was opening in mid-July and that the first Model Y rear-wheel drive SUVs from Tesla's China factory had arrived. People

say a second Tesla showroom in New Delhi would open in late July. Tesla's highly anticipated foray into the Indian market comes at a vital time for the EV maker, which suffered a drop in global sales in the second quarter despite Musk's claims that business.

JPMorgan may reduce EM Bond Index China, India shares

Divya Delhi: JPMorgan Chase & Co. may reduce the weight of China and India, the major bond issuers in its flagship emerging-market index, to reflect more developing-nation debt. According to Bloomberg documents, the Wall Street bank is seeking customer opinion on changes to its GBI-EM Global Diversified index, which tracks local-currency developing-nation debt by more than \$200 billion of assets. According to the documents, cutting a cap on individual countries



from 10% to 8.5% might increase the benchmark rate if nations with higher borrowing costs gain a larger position. bigger yields represent bigger risks and returns. The documents indicate that the revisions are tentative and may not be implemented. At a consultation last year, JPMorgan proposed a

methodology adjustment that would have reduced China's index contribution to 6%, but then withdrew it. The latest modifications will reduce weighting for the major bond sellers in emerging countries like Indonesia, Mexico, Malaysia, China, and India, according to the documents.

Trump's latest announcements raise trade concerns for textile exporters

Divya Delhi: Trump's newest tariff announcements have raised uncertainty, and purchasers are anticipated to postpone new orders. Textile exporters seem to have an advantage over Bangladesh, which Trump has slapped with 35% duty, but industry is watching India's bilateral trade deal with the US because Trump claims the agreement with Vietnam allows him to impose a 20% tariff, although there

may be exceptions. As usual, countries like Bangladesh are racing to Washington to equalize tariffs in the coming weeks. We must monitor tariffs. Buyers are confused, "SNQS International managing director V Elangovan said from Tirupur. "Retailers must stock shelves. Since the Chinese were offering greater prices this year, our merchandisers in Shanghai last week could not compete.



## Global visa concerns boost Indian student interest in Germany

**Divya Delhi :** As immigration restrictions increase in the US and UK, Indian students are choosing Germany for a safe and transparent academic path. German officials have reaffirmed their commitment to creating a stable, open environment for overseas learners, citing a 35% increase in Indian applications. German Ambassador Dr. Philipp Ackermann said "In the context of the difficulties Indian students face in other countries, we have seen a sharp rise in interest for German universities and research institutions. Applications are up over 35% in the last several months." German institutions have 50,000 Indian students, ranking fifth after the US, UK, Canada, and



Australia. The ambassador said, "We are a very reliable partner," reaffirming Germany's transparent education policy. German education is affordable, attracting students. Most public institutions have no tuition or low tuition compared to Western universities. "We believe education is a public good, not a business opportunity," Ambassador Ackermann said. The majority of German public universities do not use agents. Our system is open.

**The PM SHRI Institute**  
**Divya Delhi:** The Government of India is a major backer of SHRI School. Every student should feel welcomed and cared for in more than 14,500 PM SHRI Schools managed by the Central Government, State Government, UT Government, and local bodies like KVS and NVS. These schools should also provide a safe and stimulating learning environment, a variety of learning opportunities, and adequate physical infrastructure and resources that help students learn.

## 60% of DU Students Are Planning to Stay for Graduate School

**Divya Delhi :** Despite ongoing concerns regarding the program's implementation and sustainability, vice chancellor Yogesh Singh announced that more than 60% of undergraduates at Delhi University will participate in the FYUP's optional fourth year. "DU is ready for the fourth year," Singh announced during the university's executive council (EC) meeting, which also saw the approval of other academic and administrative proposals. He went on to say that the school is ready for the launch and that they are working on



solutions for institutions that are having trouble implementing it. boola "In colleges which have a shortage of faculty, provision will be made for engaging some guest faculty as well as regular teachers from the same college or other colleges to take additional classes," added Singh.

He did, however, emphasize that only regular faculty members, and not guest teachers, will be assigned to educate fourth-year students. Additionally, he assured everyone that both teaching and non-teaching staff members who work overtime would be well compensated.

## No Class 11 students in 300 Maharashtra colleges, yet the government spends crores on staff

**Divya Delhi:** Nearly 300 junior colleges in the state had no first-round enrollment. These colleges receive crores in government funding for wages. This has left many wondering if another scam has been discovered where children were registered "on paper" to keep staff

positions. After FYJC admissions were moved online this year, the government revealed in the legislative council on Wednesday that institutions failed to get even one Class 11 admission. Minister of state for school education Pankaj Bhojar men-

tioned the data in one sentence during a debate on the online common admission procedure (CAP), which began this year. However, the government did not identify these institutes. MLC Abhijeet Wanjarri advised to investigate this data.

## Dubai's ambitious education reforms



**Divya Delhi :** Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Deputy Prime Minister, chaired a crucial Executive Council meeting that approved a comprehensive set of new policies to transform Dubai's education, environment, legal framework, and infrastructure governance. The bold initiatives include expanded student visas, employment pathways for 90% of graduates, clean air targets, and the launch of an international mediation centre to achieve Dubai's 2030 and 2033 strategic goals for innovation, sustainability, and global competitiveness. Dubai has implemented ground-breaking education and development strategies. "Youth are the architects of the future, shaping it with their awareness, optimism, and openness to the world," stated Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Deputy Prime Minister. Dubai gives young people world-class academic, practical, and research opportunities. Dubai should attract top students from around the world and foster innovation. "By 2033, the emirate wants 50% of its university students to be international. Dubai currently has 37 international university branches and aspires to have over 70 by that year, including 11 top 200 universities.

## Presently, 30% of CAs are women, up from 8% in 2000

**Divya Delhi:** Not only are women doing very well on various Chartered Accountancy exams, but they currently make up an unprecedented 48% of the candidates who qualify or pass the exams. Women certified public accountants now make about 30% of the field, a significant increase from 8% in the year 2000. Among the 8.63 lakh students, 43% are female. The attractiveness of accounting and auditing in India stems from a number of factors, including the country's low tuition rates, the abundance of available jobs, and the attractive starting wage of Rs 12.5 lakh for a fresh graduate. In 2020, four out of six top scorers were



female; in 2021, all top scorers were female; and in 2020, there were more women overall. Within two years, female candidates had accomplished the same thing they had in 2021. The last decade has seen 75 female candidates succeed at various levels of the chartered accountant test.

In line with the National Education Policy, 2020, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India launched a new course in 2023. The head of the ICAI, Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal "Participation of women in this profession in accountancy, tax and finance is increasing phenomenally."

### IT-Delhi rose 255 places to 171st globally

**Divya Delhi:** Among Indian universities for sustainability, IIT-Delhi rose 255 places to 171st globally, according to 2025 QS Rankings released. The QS Sustainability Rankings include 78 Indian universities, with nine of the top 10 improving and 21 new institutions entering. Two IITs—Delhi and Kanpur—are in the world's top 100 for impact. With 177 and 67 rank improvements, each became fourth and fifth in India. Bangalore's IISc is among the world's top 50 environmental education schools.

## DU accepts curriculum modifications despite resistance

**Divya Delhi:** The Delhi University Executive Council accepted controversial curriculum modifications and other academic and infrastructure initiatives. The Academic Council approved the elimination of papers on Pakistan, Islam, and China from the postgraduate Political Science syllabus on June 5, despite internal objections. Executive Council member Mithuraj Dhusiya criticized the syllabus modifica-

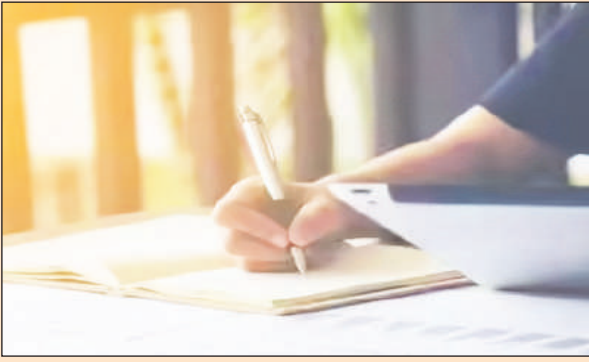


tions' implementation. He claimed that several courses were revised before reaching the Academic Council, circumventing academic process and endangering openness. Vice Chancellor Professor Yogesh Singh led the meeting, which con-

firmed Professor Rajni Abbi's appointment as Delhi University's South Campus director. The vice chancellor said the university is "fully prepared" for the National Education Policy 2020's fourth year of undergraduate study in 2025-26.

## Joint CSIR-UGC NET June 2025 exam on one day

**Divya Delhi:** This time, the Joint CSIR-UGC NET June 2025 exam will be one shift. The National Testing Agency (NTA) announced a single-day exam on July 28. The exam was originally set for July 26, 27, and 28. Multiple days would have required normalization, but the new choice eliminates that. To eliminate normalization, NTA insiders said the agency is trying to run tests in one shift if possible. Candidates requested a change to the three-day program, according to the notification. Many candidates noted that the Haryana Teacher Eligibility Test (HTET) is also on July 26 and 27, and several applied for both. In response, the NTA scheduled exams for all five CSIR-UGC NET disciplines on one day. The CSIR-UGC NET covers Mathematical, Earth, Chemical, Life, and Physical Sciences.



### Indian students in Canada have reported receiving emails to resubmit study permits, visas

**Divya Delhi:** Indian students in Canada have reported receiving emails to resubmit study permits, visas, and educational records, including marks and attendance. IRCC, a federal department that handles foreign students, issued a request that panicked international students, many of whom have two-year visas. In response to the inflow of overseas students, IRCC is tightening its financial criteria and considering limitations on admissions. I was surprised by the email. My visa is valid till 2026, however I was requested to resubmit all my documentation "Avinash Kaushik, "They even want proof of attendance, marks, where we are working part-time, etc.," he said.

These topics are Sciences receiving the applied for, with Life most.

## IITs introduce new, more adaptable multidisciplinary courses while discontinuing older dual degrees

**Divya Delhi:** The classic five-year dual degree programs are being replaced by more adaptable, interdisciplinary options at the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). Students' goals and the needs of employers are changing, therefore universities are rethinking the traditional dual degree model, which was once seen as a practical way for students to get a Bachelor's and Master's degree in the same academic year. The BTech pool is growing, and several IITs are absorbing students from five-year integrated programs. Higher student turnout as a result of more inclusive reservation policies and lower enthusiasm from prominent politicians are factors propelling this change. A growing



### Samsung may make India a US hub amid rising tariffs

**Divya Delhi:** Samsung may move some smartphone production from Vietnam if US tariffs drop in India. The world's largest smartphone maker would follow Apple in making India a top US smartphone manufacturing base. Samsung manufactures in various countries. Due to heightened US uncertainty, we are ready for several possibilities.

number of students are opting for stand-alone BTech programs rather than dual degree programs because of the many benefits that students

in the former receive, including hands-on experience in the field, internships, and early access to placement prospects by the third year.

## DU Raises Prices Again, This Time By More Than 20%



**Divya Delhi :** Key funding at Delhi University has seen substantial increases since 2022, and the university-wide fee structure has been rising gradually over the past three years. University Facilities and Services Charges have increased dramatically by 200%, whereas the University Development Fund has increased by about 67%. The Economically Weaker Section Welfare Fund, meanwhile, has grown by 150% throughout that time, demonstrating that student fees have been steadily on the rise. In keeping with previous years, the institution has adjusted tuition for the 2025–26 school year. Although Delhi University has established a yearly price raise policy of 10%, this year's hikes surpass 20% in some critical components. The University Development Fund saw a 25% increase, going from Rs 1,200 to Rs 1,500, while the University Facilities and Services Charges saw a 20% increase, going from Rs 1,250 to Rs 1,500. Additionally, the Economically Weaker Section Welfare Fund saw a 25% boost in just one year, going from Rs 200 to Rs 250.



Chaotic but charming, Metro...In Dino is a delightful sequel to the beloved prequel

**Divya Delhi:** In love, one size doesn't fit everyone. Multiple people across ages and cities learn this the hard way as they struggle with changing relationships under modern love's uncertainty. Losing love is normal. Relationship duration depends on how often you fall in love with the same person. Modern love may consider this toxic, while traditional love may see it as a major sacrifice to stay together. Love has no right or bad, right? The spiritual sequel moves from Mumbai to Pune, Bengaluru, Delhi, and Kolkata. More cities mean more mayhem, characters, songs, and 2 hours, 42 minutes. Basu pulls it off despite appearing to wing it, with a few loose ends. Even in sadness, his colloquial storytelling makes things light. Have more choices harmed love? Information overload: has love lost its mystery? Basu addresses these problems while incorporating humor into the loss and longing.



Aamir Khan needs time and Salman Khan is hawa ka jhoka: Paresh Rawal

**Divya Delhi:** Actor Paresh Rawal has revealed interesting details about working with Aamir and Salman Khan. Having worked with both superstars, acknowledged their talent but noted their differing work methods. He noted that while both are dedicated, their role preparation methods differ. Paresh told Bollywood Bubble that Salman works on instinct. Salman instinctively knows a scene. Charming guy. His screen presence is remarkable. Not much work awaits him on set. He goes with it."

Good luck this week



**Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19).**  
Plan ahead. Get organized. Don't trust recollection. Make lists of tasks and appointments to avoid forgetting and getting angry in stressful situations. Avoid shortcuts and stick to proven methods. Be patient with loved ones. Everyone struggles with something they don't discuss. Children may need compassionate but severe punishment. Watch out for sudden food sensitivities or intolerances. Money matters exhibit growth, indicating long-term financial success.



**Taurus (April 20–May 20)**  
A new chapter begins. Change should be welcomed. Go outside your comfort zone. Explore new opportunities and trust that your current efforts will pay off. Stay calm and sensible in money concerns and talks if you're feeling risky. The cards favor traveling abroad, to a new city or nation, or even to a new home. Maintain patience when discussing. While you're energetic, others may struggle to keep up. Singles should trust actions, not promises. Health shows consistent improvement and a readiness to quit unhealthy habits.



**Gemini (May21–June20)**  
Think before speaking. You may want to criticize someone. Or express your uncensored views. Be careful—there will be consequences. High energies may make you restless with your everyday routine. Spend more time outdoors. Try adding some shine to your regular routine. Keep an open mind and see who the Universe gives you—a deeper love story is coming. Keep in contact with your favorites. You may get some pleasant surprises. Money concerns show property investments.



**Cancer (June 21–July 22)**  
Identify obstacles to your ambitions. Remove distractions and hurdles this week. Even if it means ending certain relationships. Even if it means working longer hours. Try to be impartial in personal relationships and not take things personally. When you think someone close is changing, put yourself in their shoes and see things from their perspective. A much-needed night out with pals restores fun. Beware of overspending—an unexpected fee may surprise you.



**Leo (July 23–August 22)**  
Keep your promises. Act professionally to gain respect. Support people in need. Whatever you say or do now will have professional and personal karmic consequences. One last hello and goodbye may come from your history. Work done months ago may need revisions. Be adaptable and ready for last-minute changes. A parent may need health monitoring at home. A new diet performs well. Or you may be more energetic. Financial issues rise.



**Virgo (Aug 23–Sep 22)**  
Success and fulfillment. The team will appreciate you more in the coming weeks if you've been struggling to be noticed. People are seeing your skill. Team affairs go well, and you feel like you're living your purpose. Business should improve and job hunters should get good news. A buried issue may require a serious discussion in concerns of the heart. Self-reliance is best in money matters. Beware of overwhelm, which can impact sleep and health.



**Libra (Sept 23–Oct 22)**  
Protect your energy, which is valuable. Recognize your triggers and drainers. After being negatively impacted by someone who complains and doesn't see the positive, step away and regroup. Reconnect with your most positive energy sources. Jobseekers may need patience now. Family matters demand deep breathing and counting to 10 while dealing with an unpleasant relative. Someone may admire or love you. Healthy matters are stable.



**Scorpio (Oct 23–Nov 21)**  
Who you are makes you stand out. Your power comes from acknowledging and enjoying your originality, not following the crowd and minimizing it. Do something different. Be odd. Those that matter will see you. Scorpios who work for themselves may have trouble finding clients. When starting a new career, diplomacy helps. Family issues require more communication and involvement with loved ones. Check old bills carefully.



**Sagittarius (Nov 22–Dec 21)**  
Be your own advocate. Stop delaying and act immediately to change. Let your ideas flow. Apply strategies. Use more boldness if necessary. Request what you want. It will be the right choice even if it's scary. Friendships may test when you discover a friend is a rival. Do the right thing despite family gossip. Those prone to sprains and muscular aches should be cautious while exercising. Money provides relief.



**Capricorn (Dec 22–Jan 19)**  
Not everything needs intellectualization. Feel your emotions. Reflect on your mood lately. Repressing feelings is wrong. Follow your heart. You may be growing tired with your job or considering a career move. There may be corporate transfers or new roles. You may switch between introverted and social in your personal life. A casual meeting could lead to a long-term friendship. A recurrent illness can be addressed with prompt medical attention.



**Aquarius (Jan 20–Feb 18)**  
Watch your back at work and trust a few with secret things. Rivals may play small politics. Spread rumors about you. You may opt to approach someone or resolve an issue instead of avoiding it. Negotiate with an open mind and listen to what is not spoken. Home is where you recharge and relax. Friendships and moviegoing revive positivity. Health appears fine. Remember that borrowers rarely repay loans.



**Pisces (February 19–March 20)**  
Alteration is imminent. Let go of old habits and relationships that haven't helped you. Growing is painful yet important for advancement. You may want to start over professionally. Perhaps you should establish a consulting or business. Avoid repeating mistakes by learning from history. Naturally sharp, you may uncover something shocking about someone in your life. Trust your gut about a friend.

'3 BHK': A touching family drama

**Divya Delhi :** Sri Ganesh takes a break from crime thrillers to film a family drama about a family's struggle to buy a 3 BHK. The film is based on engineer-turned-writer Aravindh Sachidanandam's short story. Patriarch Vasudevan wants a home. He says "a house is not just a place of residence, it is also a family's identity, prestige and respect". Sri Ganesh could have made his film a scathing system analysis.



Instead, he made it a feel-good family melodrama that will appeal to everyone. He crammed his film with all the challenges a family could face while pursuing their ambition. Each must overcome

obstacles and sacrifice to achieve the goal. Sri Ganesh tells a touching family story at a slow pace with a well-written storyline and insightful conversations. The film's ensemble cast

Shivakumar and Devayani, who appeared in 'Suryavamsam', play the parents, while Siddharth plays the boy. As the real estate broker, Yogi Babu provides the film's comedy.

Amaal addresses uncle Anu sexual harassment

**Divya Delhi:** Music composer Anu Mallik was embroiled in 'me too' allegations. When the 'me too' movement was strong, some women accused him of inappropriate behavior. Daboo Mallik's son, composer Amaal Mallik, has responded to these claims against his uncle. Amaal stated that he did not consider his uncle a family member. He announced on social media a few months ago that he's lost relations



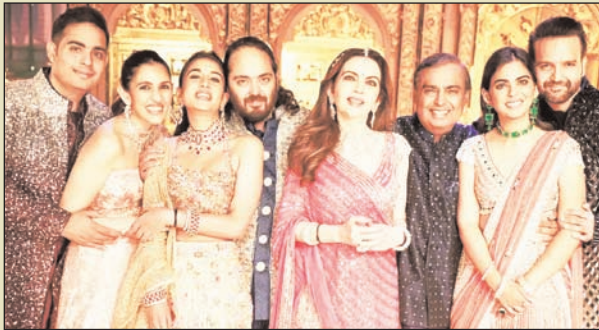
with his parents. Amid allegations against Anu, Amaal said to Siddharth Kannan, "I didn't defend Anu Malik

during the MeToo movement. I didn't care because he's not my family. It embarrassed me when he was

charged. We never dated. But if so many people spoke out against him, there must be something to it. Why come and say otherwise? No smoke without fire. Five people cannot debate one another." Regarding their relationship, he said, "I respect him in public. But after learning of his crimes, I don't like him. His family is unrelated to me. The last time we met was years ago. I avoid parties.

One year since Anant-Radhika Ambani's international wedding honoring tradition

**Divya Delhi:** Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's wedding a year ago made headlines and defined India's cultural history. India's traditions, spirituality, and hospitality were on display at the Ambani wedding in July 2024. Every element was intentional, from traditional Vedic chants in Jamnagar to Mumbai's Jio World Centre's Banaras replica. This lavish display affirmed India's Sanskriti (culture), Samrataa (harmony), and Sambandh. In an age of photo opportunities and viral clips, the Ambani wedding went a different route. From Grah Shanti and Shiv Shakti Puja to deep Bhajans and the joyful Sangeet, each ceremony was executed with devotion rarely seen at high-profile events. This was real, sincere, and a passion-



ate tribute to millennia-old traditions. The strategy resonated beyond India. Live broadcasts, social media coverage, and guests photographing every detail made the wedding a soft power moment for India, presenting its art, clothing, and culture to bil-

lions. A wedding with such a broad array of world leaders, spiritual luminaries, and cultural icons is rare. Presidents, business leaders, and celebrities from across continents attended spiritually profound and visually magnificent celebrations.



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# Happiness, Mindset Spiritual Coach Shailja Sachdeva Received SBR 2025 Award from Mrs. Hema Malini for Her Life-Changing Contribution

**Divya Delhi :** Shailja Sachdeva, a Happiness & Mindset Spiritual Coach, Tarot Reader, Reiki Master Teacher, and Numerologist, received the SBR 2025 award in Mumbai. The prize was delivered by iconic actress and MP Mrs. Hema Malini Ji, making it even more remarkable. Shailja's shift from homemaker to spiritual leader is remarkable. Her growth shows inner strength,



faith, and unwavering service. She now guides countless people seek-

ing healing, meaning, and personal growth. This honor recognizes her personal accomplishment and her outstanding impact on lives via holistic and spiritual practices. Shailja uses intuition, compassion, and ancient wisdom to help individuals rediscover themselves and reach their potential. She helps people understand life's issues as a Tarot Reader. She restores balance and

peace as a Reiki Master Teacher. Numerologist, she deciphers number vibrations to guide people to their soul blueprint. As a Mindset and Happiness Coach, she helps others overcome limiting beliefs and live joyful, confident, and self-worthy lives. Shailja has had a major impact on personal development and spiritual welfare. She leads deep, transforming sessions that awaken truth, pur-

pose, and inner light. Shailja attributes her accomplishment to divine guidance, her instructors' knowledge, and years of inner labor under spiritual visionaries Harpreet Kaur and Abhishek Madaan. Her story shows the power of following one's calling and bravely serving others with love and authenticity. The award from Mrs. Hema Malini Ji, a sign of grace, strength, and feminine

power, gave a wonderful layer of symbolism to the accolade, reinforcing Shailja's path as a woman who rose, healed, and uplifted others. Shailja Sachdeva represents spiritual enlightenment, self-empowerment, and heart-led leadership. Her message is clear: when we follow our purpose, develop our attitude, and walk with faith, we alter ourselves and the world.

## A Soulful Debut Shailja Sachdeva Marks Her Co-Author Launch in the Empowering Book Fearless and Feminine

**Divya Delhi :** In a moment that beautifully blends vulnerability, power, and purpose, Shailja Sachdeva now a celebrated happiness and mindset spiritual coach, tarot reader, and numerologist has made her literary debut as a co-author in the transformational anthology Fearless and Feminine. The book brings together voices of women who have defied limitations and redefined their paths, and among its most stirring narratives is Shailja's own a tribute to inner awakening, reinvention, and the enduring strength of the human spirit. Once a devoted homemaker rooted in love and responsibility, Shailja's journey is one that echoes in the hearts of countless women. Her story in Fearless and Feminine is more than a personal milestone; it is a dedication to homemakers everywhere who quietly hold families together, often putting their dreams on pause. Fueled by deep introspection and an intuitive pull toward higher



purpose, she found her true calling in the spiritual space.

Guided by the mentorship of Harpreet Kaur and Abhishek Madaan, she gradually embraced her role as a spiritual coach someone who empowers others to heal, grow, and align with their soul's purpose. Her chapter serves as a roadmap not just for aspiring coaches or seekers, but for any woman yearning to reclaim her voice, rediscover her worth, and reconnect with her true essence. Her journey is

not one of overnight success, but of ongoing growth, self-awareness, and spiritual expansion. She reminds us that transformation is not a destination but a continuous path of small, conscious steps each one leading us closer to our authentic selves. Through the pages of Fearless and Feminine, she offers readers more than a story she offers an invitation: to listen to their inner voice, trust the process, and rise into the most fearless, feminine version of themselves.

## Voice of City Talent Hunt 2025" concluded with a spectacular performance in Delhi's Satyawati College Auditorium



**Divya Delhi :** At Delhi's Satyawati College Auditorium, the Voice of City Talent Hunt 2025 had its grand finale. Sunny, a popular singer, presided over the occasion. Dignitaries such as

Poonam Bhardwaj, chief guest Paras Guru, and numerous others were present at the occasion. This talent contest showcased a rare fusion of musical styles, with performers hailing from



all across the country stealing the show with their one-of-a-kind performances. The program made sure to recognize and thank all of the distinguished guests that graced the stage. All of the atten-

dees were very appreciative of the effort, and they were very vocal in their admiration of Sunny, the program's organizer. Emerging artists have a powerful platform thanks to Voice of City



Talent Hunt, where they may hone their skills and realize their aspirations. In addition to showcasing the artists' work, the event fostered meaningful cross-cultural understanding.

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